MARVEL EPIC COLLECTION

VENOM

CARNAGE UNLEASHED

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EPIC COLLECTION

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CARNAGE UNLEASHED

VOLUME 5

1994-1995

SPIDER-MAN: THE ARACHNIS PROJECT #6, WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #118-119, SPIDER-MAN #52-53, VENOM: SEPARATION ANXIETY #1-4, VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED #1-4, VENOM: SINNER TAKES ALL #5, UNCANNY ORIGINS #7 AND MATERIAL FROM VENOM: SINNER TAKES ALL #1-4

VENOM

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EXCERPTS FROM *SPIDER-MAN: THE ARACHNIS PROJECT #1-5,* AUGUST-DECEMBER 1994

SPIDER-MAN: THE ARACHNIS PROJECT #6, JANUARY 1995
"BATTLE ROYAL!"

WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #118, NOVEMBER 1994
"THE EXILE RETURNS, PART ONE OF FOUR: MEMORIES"

SPIDER-MAN #52, NOVEMBER 1994
"DEADLINE"

WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #119, DECEMBER 1994
"THE EXILE RETURNS, PART 3: ECHOES OF SILENCE"

SPIDER-MAN #53, DECEMBER 1994
"GATHERING STORMS"

VENOM: SEPARATION ANXIETY #1, DECEMBER 1994
"APART"

VENOM: SEPARATION ANXIETY #2, JANUARY 1995
"LOST SOULS"

VENOM: SEPARATION ANXIETY #3, FEBRUARY 1995
"PARTING IS SUCH SWEET SORROW"

VENOM: SEPARATION ANXIETY #4, MARCH 1995
"REUNION"

VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED #1, APRIL 1995
"THERE MUST BE SOME WAY OUT OF HERE..."

VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED #2, MAY 1995
"SAID THE JOKER TO THE THIEF"

VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED #3, JUNE 1995
"THERE'S TOO MUCH CONFUSION!"

VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED #4, JULY 1995
"CAN'T GET NO RELIEF!!"

VENOM: SINNER TAKES ALL #1, AUGUST 1995

VENOM: SINNER TAKES ALL #2, SEPTEMBER 1995
"REDEEMABLE UPON REQUEST"

VENOM: SINNER TAKES ALL #3, OCTOBER 1995
"EVE OF DESTRUCTION!"

VENOM: SINNER TAKES ALL #4, NOVEMBER 1995
"...SO SHALL YE REAP!"

VENOM: SINNER TAKES ALL #5, DECEMBER 1995
"A TIME TO KILL, AND A TIME TO HEAL"
"SYMBIOTE"

EXCERPT FROM *SPIDER-MAN 2099 MEETS SPIDER-MAN,* NOVEMBER 1995

UNCANNY ORIGINS #7, MARCH 1997
"ORIGINAL SIN!"

VENOM APPEARED IN VARIOUS SCENES FROM *SPIDER-MAN: THE ARACHNIS PROJECT #1-5* BEFORE MAKING A LARGER APPEARANCE IN ISSUE #6.

MARVEL COMICS
SPIDER-MAN
THE ARACHNIS PROJECT
1ST ISSUE IN A SIX ISSUE LIMITED SERIES!
STYX™ AND STONE™ MAY BREAK YOUR BONES BUT THE JURY™ WILL DESTROY YOU!
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1 AUG
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
WILD MAN

WRITER: MIKE LACKEY • BREAKDOWNS (#1-4) & PENCILS (#5): ANDREW WILDMAN
FINISHES (#1-4) & INKS (#5): STEPHEN BASKERVILLE • COLORIST: CHIA-CHI WANG
LETTERERS: JADE MOEDE (#1-3, #5) & JOE ROSEN (#4) • EDITOR: ERIC FEIN
GROUP EDITOR: DANNY FINGEROTH

Venom appeared in various scenes from *Spider-Man: The Arachnis Project #1-5* before making a larger appearance in issue #6.

BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT PETER PARKER GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE! STAN LEE PRESENTS . . .
SPIDER-MAN!
GWARKKKRR!!!
TARGET SIGHTED AND CONFIRMED!
THAT'S VENOM!!!

WRITER: **MIKE LACKEY** • BREAKDOWNS (#1-4) & & PENCILS (#5): **ANDREW WILDMAN**
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THE ARACHNIS PROJECT
PART ONE

TIES THAT BIND!

A SPIDER-JAM BY:

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CHIA-CHI WANG — COLORIST
JADE MOEDE — LETTERER
ERIC FEIN — EDITOR
DANNY FINGEROTH — GROUP EDITOR
TOM DeFALCO — EDITOR IN CHIEF

SONIC WEAPONS ARE CRANKED UP TO ELEVEN OUT OF A POSSIBLE TEN.! LET'S FRY THIS GEEK IN HIS OWN SLIMY JUICES.!

BETTER YET. LET'S CRAM ONE OF THOSE SUPPORT PILLARS DOWN HIS THROAT AND DO HIM ROTISSERIE STYLE.!

COOL YOUR JETS, SCREECH.!

OKAY BOYS, LET'S DO THIS ONE BY THE NUMBERS.! FIREARM.! RETAIN FLANKING POSITION.!

CAN DO, SENTRY.!

RAMSHOT.! BOMBLAST.! ARE YOU SET WITH THAT ORDNANCE?

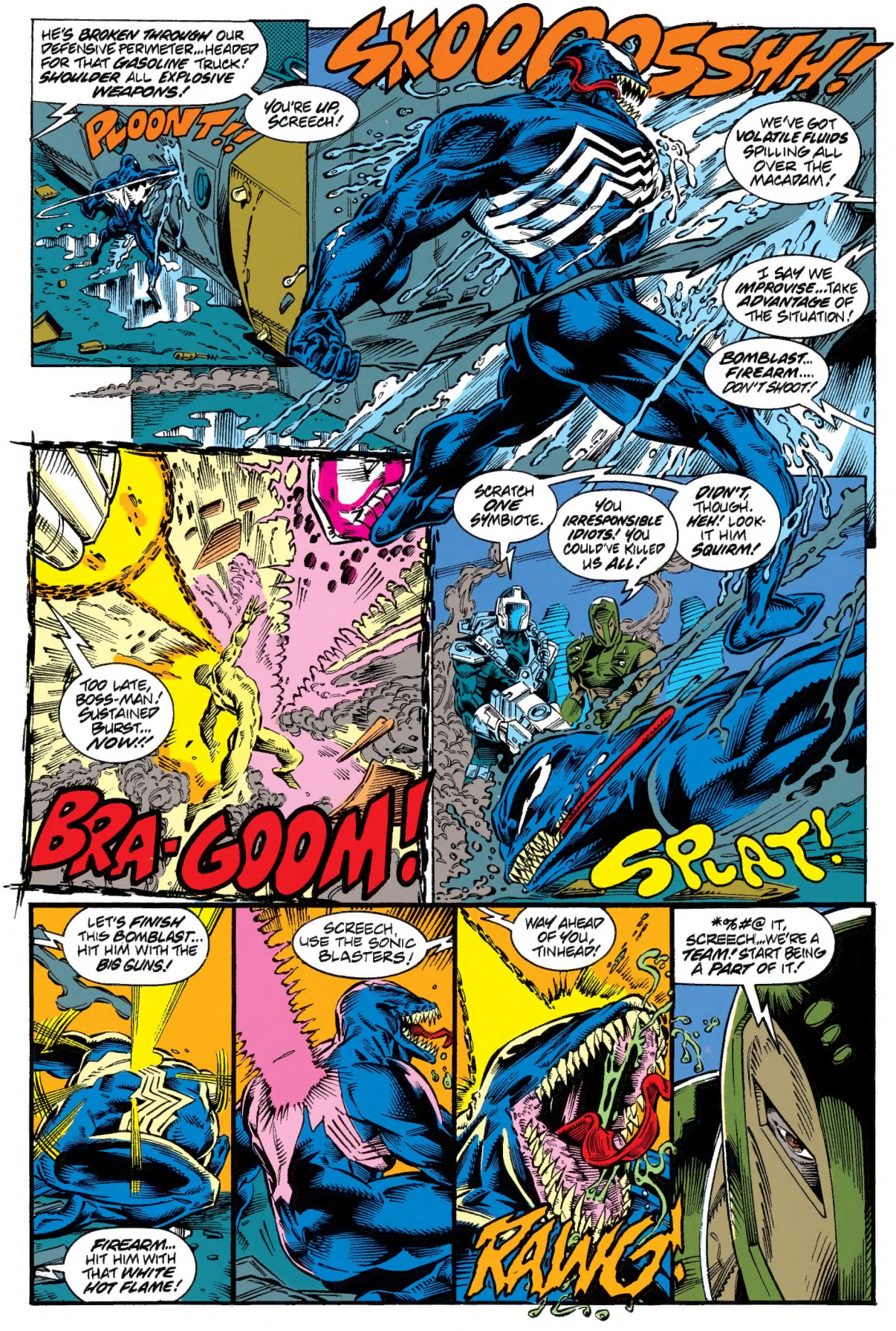
RRR/AAWRRK.!

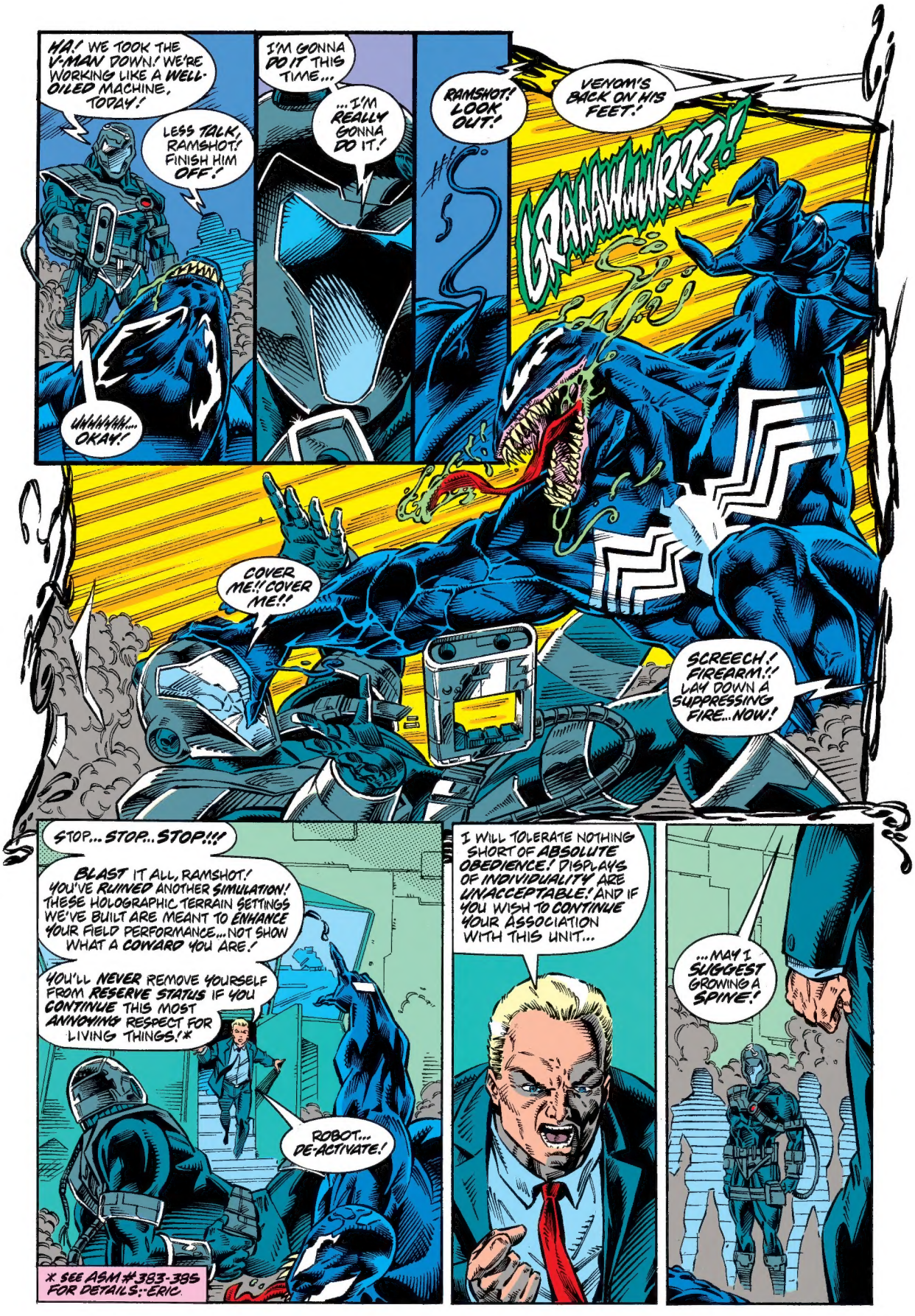
FLETCHETTE WEAPONRY ARMED AND READY TO ROCK 'N ROLL.!

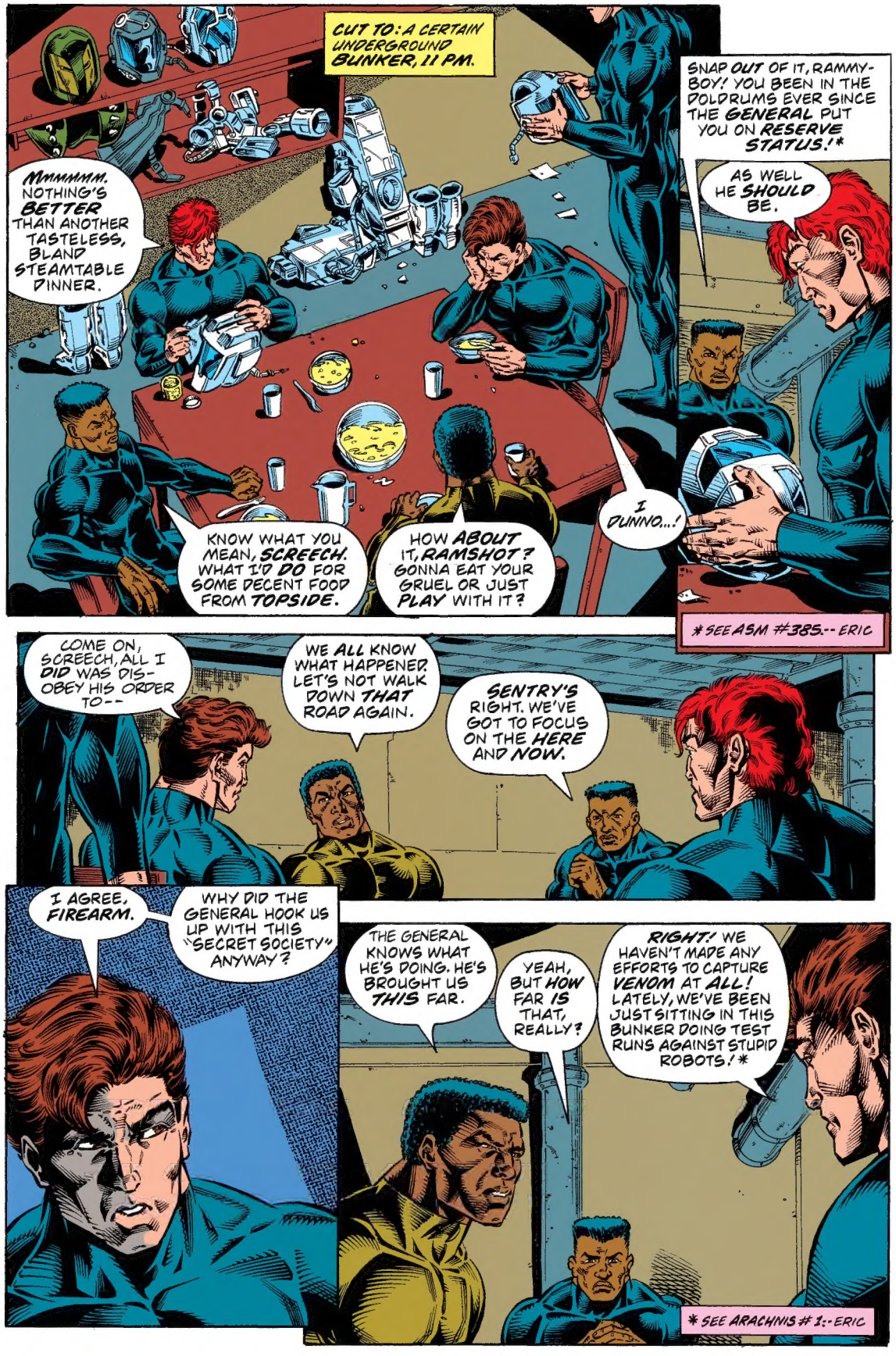
CIVILIANS HAVE BEEN EXFILTRATED FROM OUR FIRE ZONE.!

ENJOY BREATHING WHILE YOU CAN, SYMBIOTE.!

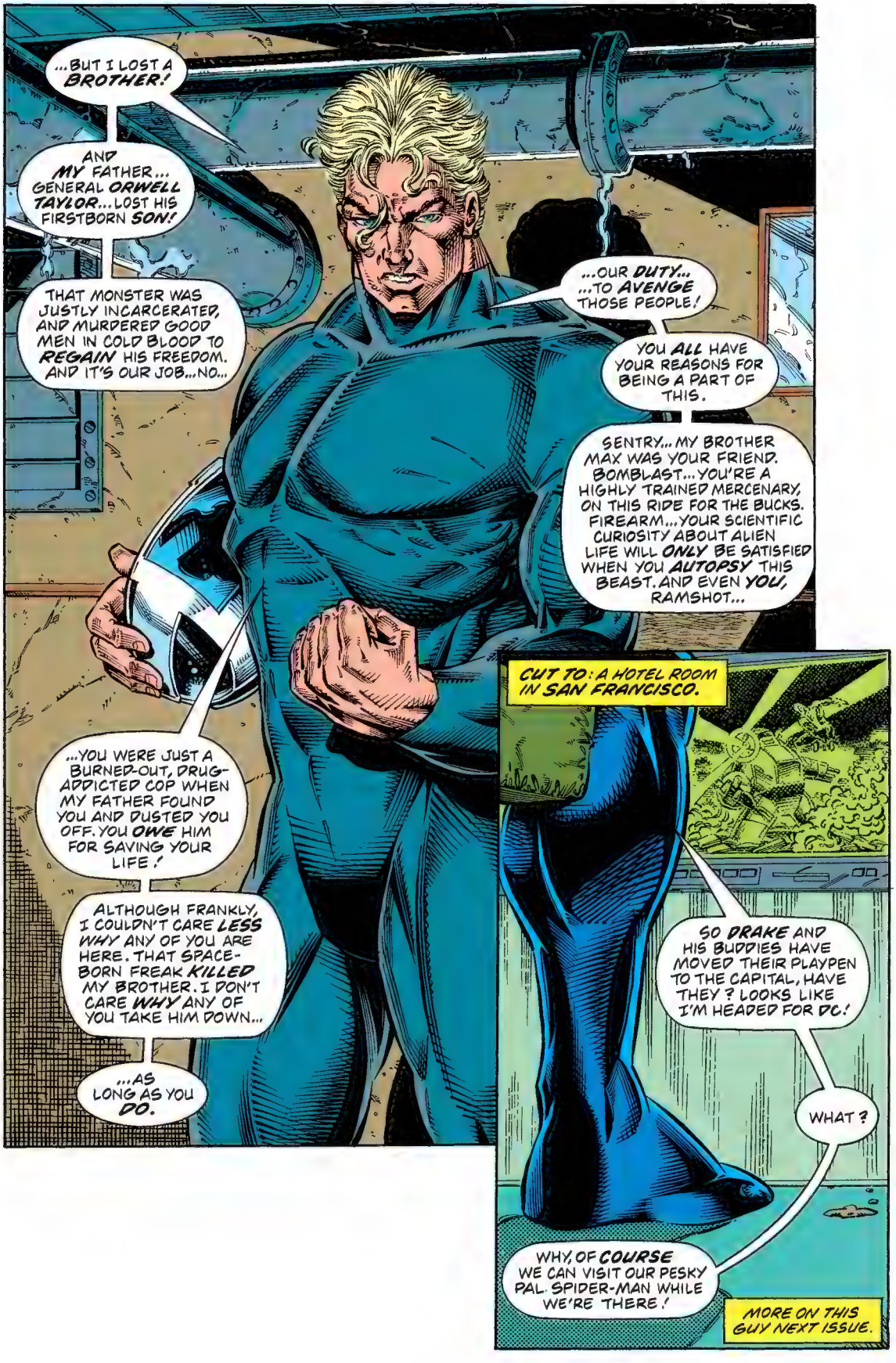
OL' BOMBLAST HERE'S GOT A PLASMA BOLT WITH YOUR NAME ON IT.!

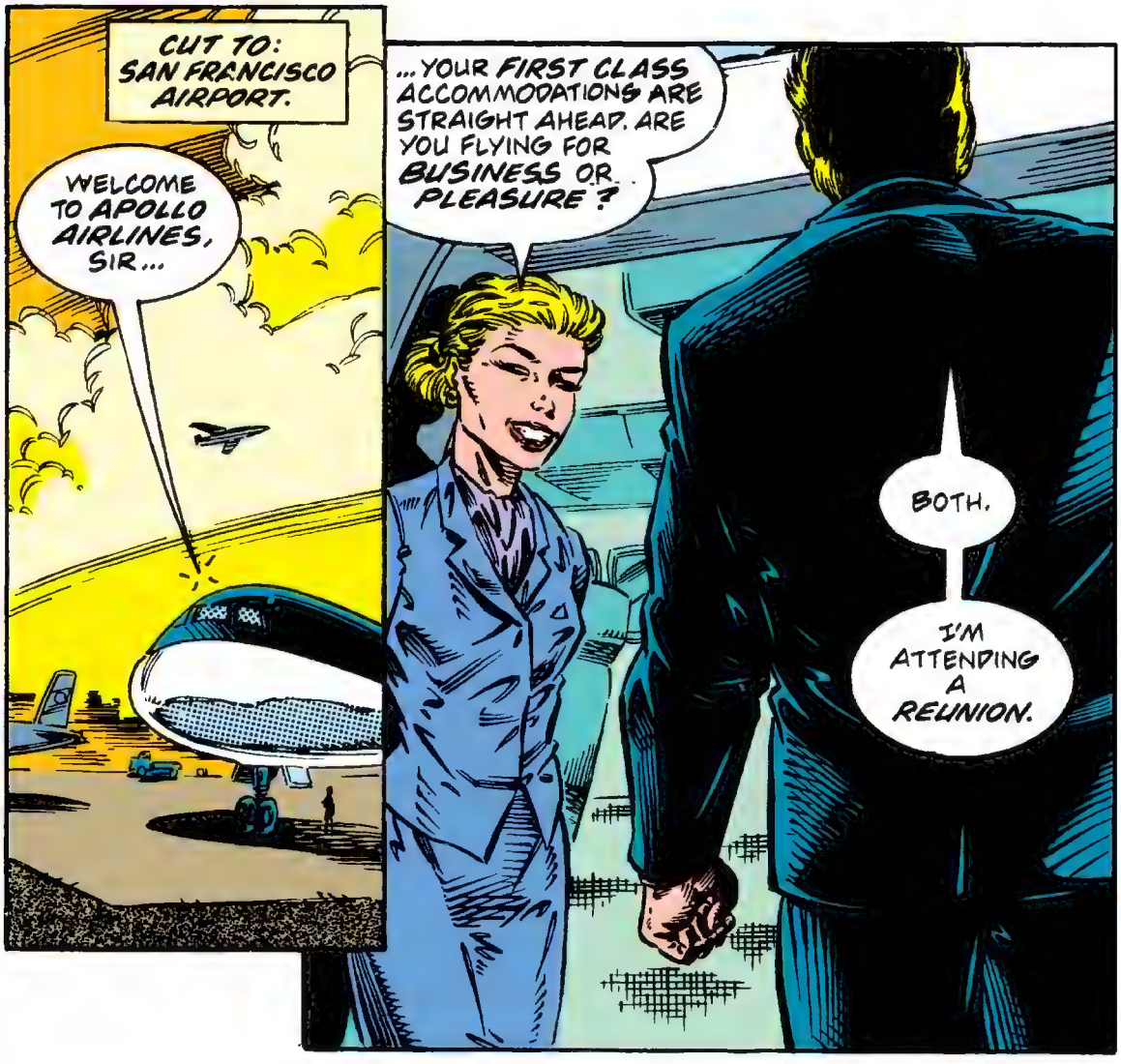

HE'S BROKEN THROUGH OUR DEFENSIVE PERIMETER...HEADED FOR THAT GASOLINE TRUCK! SHOULDER ALL EXPLOSIVE WEAPONS!
PLOONT!!
YOU'RE UP, SCREECH!
SKOOOSSHH!
WE'VE GOT VOLATILE FLUIDS SPILLING ALL OVER THE MACADAM!
I SAY WE IMPROVISE...TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION!
BOMBLAST... FIREARM.... DON'T SHOOT!
SCRATCH ONE SYMBIOTE.
YOU IRRESPONSIBLE IDIOTS! YOU COULD'VE KILLED US ALL!
DIDN'T, THOUGH. HEH! LOOK- IT HIM SQUIRM!
TOO LATE, BOSS-MAN! SUSTAINED BURST... NOW!!
BRA-GOOM!
SPLAT!
LET'S FINISH THIS BOMBLAST... HIT HIM WITH THE BIG GUNS!
FIREARM... HIT HIM WITH THAT WHITE HOT FLAME!
SCREECH, USE THE SONIC BLASTERS!
WAY AHEAD OF YOU, TINHEAD!
RAWG!
*%#@ IT, SCREECH...WE'RE A TEAM! START BEING A PART OF IT!

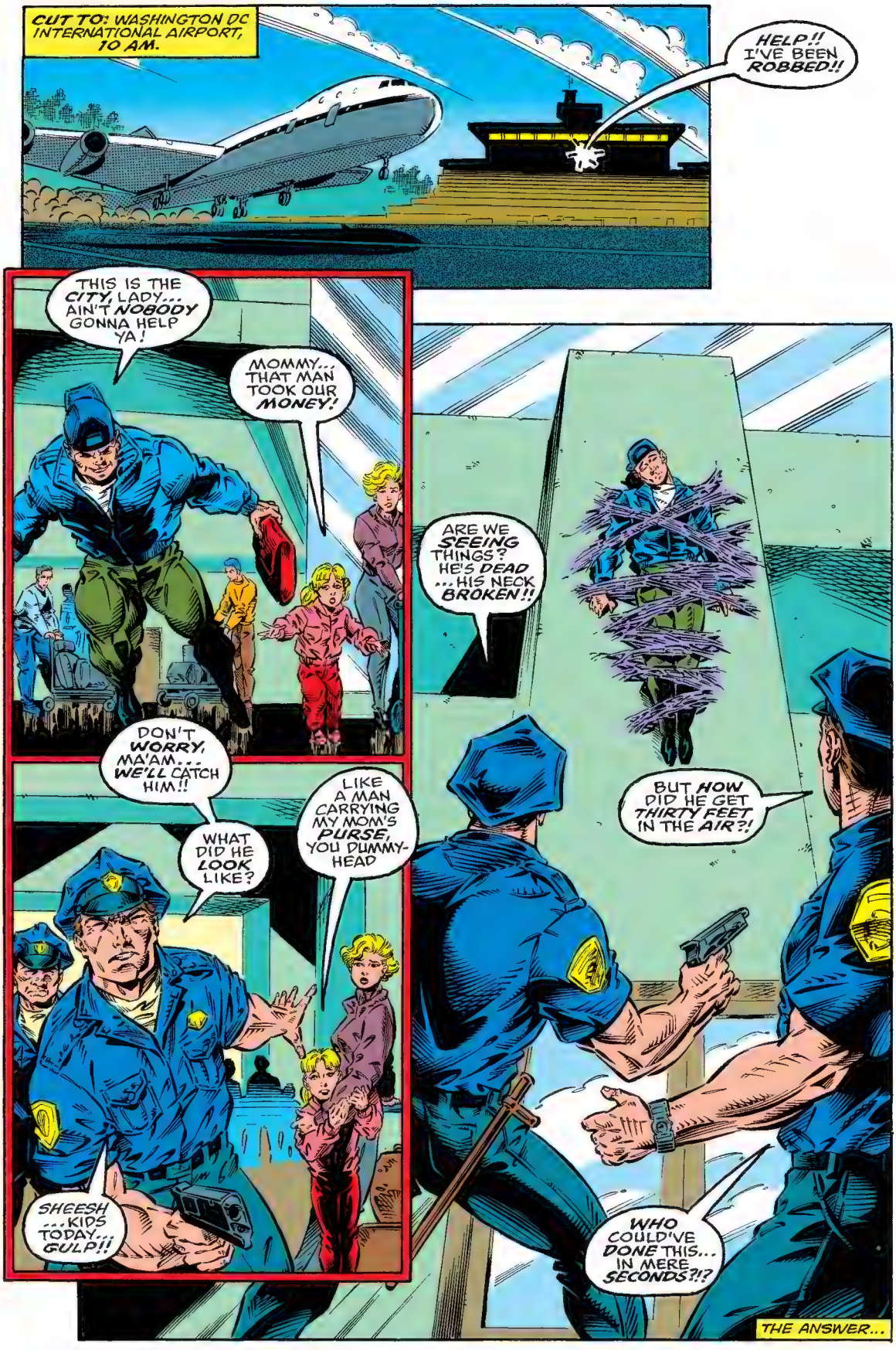

HA! WE TOOK THE V-MAN DOWN! WE'RE WORKING LIKE A WELL-OILED MACHINE, TODAY!
LESS TALK, RAMSHOT! FINISH HIM OFF!
UHHHHH... OKAY!
I'M GONNA DO IT THIS TIME...
...I'M REALLY GONNA DO IT!
RAMSHOT! LOOK OUT!
VENOM'S BACK ON HIS FEET!
GRAAAHHHRRR!
COVER ME!! COVER ME!!
SCREECH! FIREARM!! LAY DOWN A SUPPRESSING FIRE...NOW!
STOP... STOP... STOP!!!
BLAST IT ALL, RAMSHOT! YOU'VE RUINED ANOTHER SIMULATION! THESE HOLOGRAPHIC TERRAIN SETTINGS WE'VE BUILT ARE MEANT TO ENHANCE YOUR FIELD PERFORMANCE... NOT SHOW WHAT A COWARD YOU ARE!
YOU'LL NEVER REMOVE YOURSELF FROM RESERVE STATUS IF YOU CONTINUE THIS MOST ANNOYING RESPECT FOR LIVING THINGS!*
ROBOT... DE-ACTIVATE!
* SEE ASM #383-385 FOR DETAILS.--ERIC.
I WILL TOLERATE NOTHING SHORT OF ABSOLUTE OBEDIENCE! DISPLAYS OF INDIVIDUALITY ARE UNACCEPTABLE! AND IF YOU WISH TO CONTINUE YOUR ASSOCIATION WITH THIS UNIT...
...MAY I SUGGEST GROWING A SPINE!


CUT TO: A CERTAIN UNDERGROUND BUNKER, 11 P.M.
MMMMMM. NOTHING'S BETTER THAN ANOTHER TASTELESS, BLAND STEAMTABLE DINNER.
KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, SCREECH. WHAT I'D DO FOR SOME DECENT FOOD FROM TOPSIDE.
HOW ABOUT IT, RAMSHOT? GONNA EAT YOUR GRUEL OR JUST PLAY WITH IT?
I DUNNO...!
SNAP OUT OF IT, RAMMY-BOY! YOU BEEN IN THE DOLDRUMS EVER SINCE THE GENERAL PUT YOU ON RESERVE STATUS!*
AS WELL HE SHOULD BE.
* SEE ASM #385.-- ERIC
COME ON, SCREECH, ALL I DID WAS DIS-OBEY HIS ORDER TO--
WE ALL KNOW WHAT HAPPENED. LET'S NOT WALK DOWN THAT ROAD AGAIN.
SENTRY'S RIGHT. WE'VE GOT TO FOCUS ON THE HERE AND NOW.
I AGREE, FIREARM.
WHY DID THE GENERAL HOOK US UP WITH THIS "SECRET SOCIETY" ANYWAY?
THE GENERAL KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING. HE'S BROUGHT US THIS FAR.
YEAH, BUT HOW FAR IS THAT, REALLY?
RIGHT! WE HAVEN'T MADE ANY EFFORTS TO CAPTURE VENOM AT ALL! LATELY, WE'VE BEEN JUST SITTING IN THIS BUNKER DOING TEST RUNS AGAINST STUPID ROBOTS!*
* SEE ARACHNIS #1:- ERIC

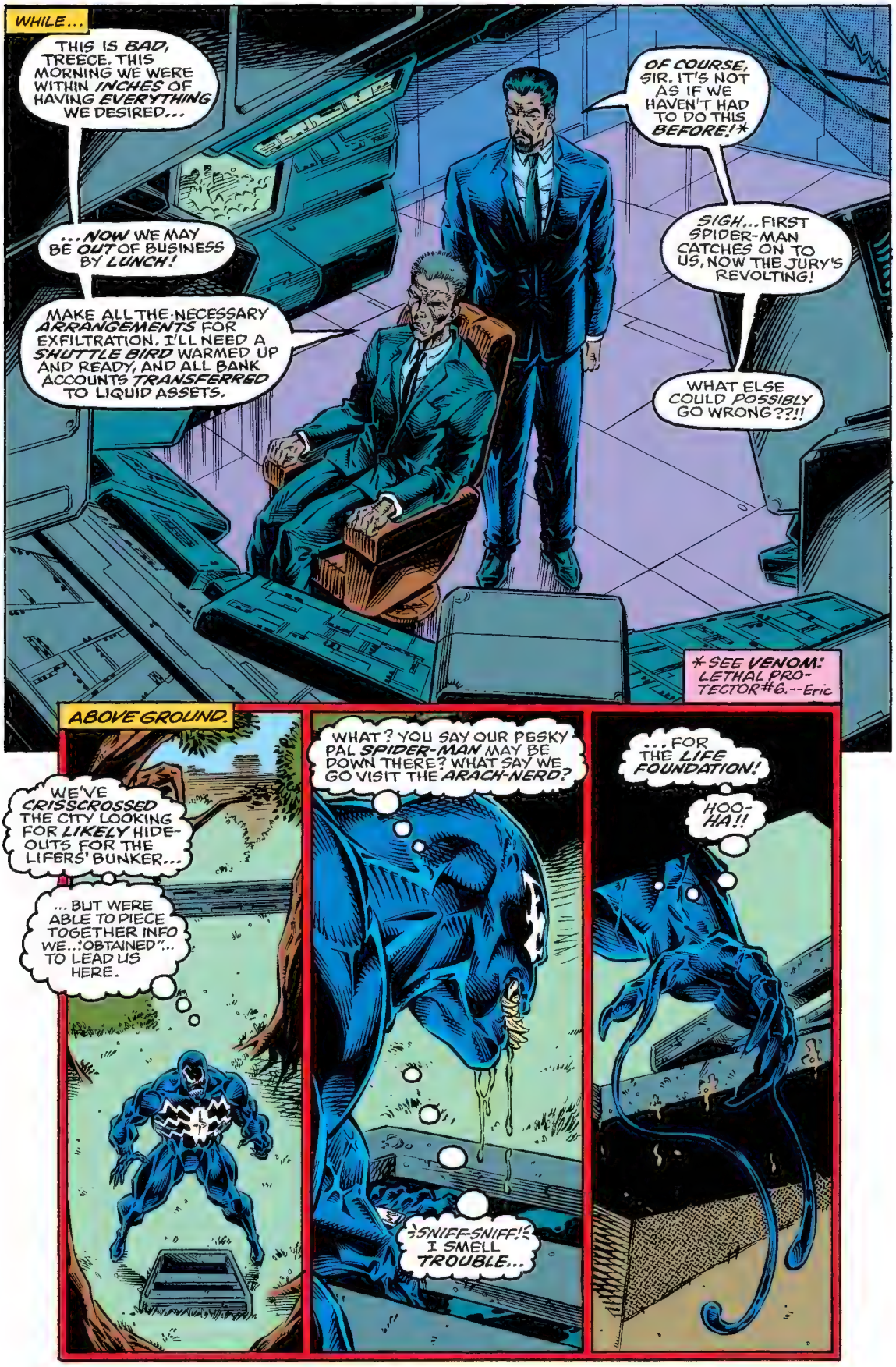
I REALIZE THAT THE JURY IS A TEAM, AND WE'VE GOT TO ACT LIKE ONE, BUT I'VE GOT TO SPEAK MY MIND!
WE'VE JUST BEEN FLYING IN A HOLDING PATTERN SINCE WE GOT HERE, AND THE GENERAL AND HIS NAMELESS PALS AREN'T BRINGING US IN FOR A LANDING!
I MEAN, DO ANY OF YOU KNOW WHO THOSE DARK SUITS ARE? ANY OF YOU??!!
I THINK THEY'RE GOVERNMENT. CIA OR NSA OR MAYBE DOD!!
WHAT DOES IT MATTER WHO THEY ARE? THEY OFFERED US A DEAL. WE PROVIDE TOPSIDE SECURITY MEASURES AND PROTECT THE INTEGRITY OF THIS BUNKER...
...AND IN TURN, THEY'LL HELP US IN OUR MISSION TO DESTROY THE V-MAN!
ANOTHER THING...I STILL DON'T SEE WHY WE HAVE TO KILL HIM!
I WAS IN GRENADA AND THE GULF WAR. I'VE SEEN THINGS THAT WOULD MAKE YOUR SPINE MELT. BUT WHEN I SAW WHAT VENOM DID TO HUGH TAYLOR DURING HIS BREAKOUT FROM THE VAULT...
...IT CONVINCED ME THAT WE AREN'T HUNTING ANY MAN... BUT A VICIOUS MONSTER!
ONE THAT MUST BE DESTROYED, RIGHT, BOMBLAST?
THIS AIN'T A COMIC BOOK, CAULKIN! YOU CAN'T JUST PUNCH HIM IN THE JAW AND EXPECT HIM TO STAY DOWN!
IT'S GOTTA BE FINAL! VENOM KILLED MY FRIEND, AND FOR THAT HE'S GOTTA PAY!
YEAH, YOU LOST A FRIEND, SENTRY...

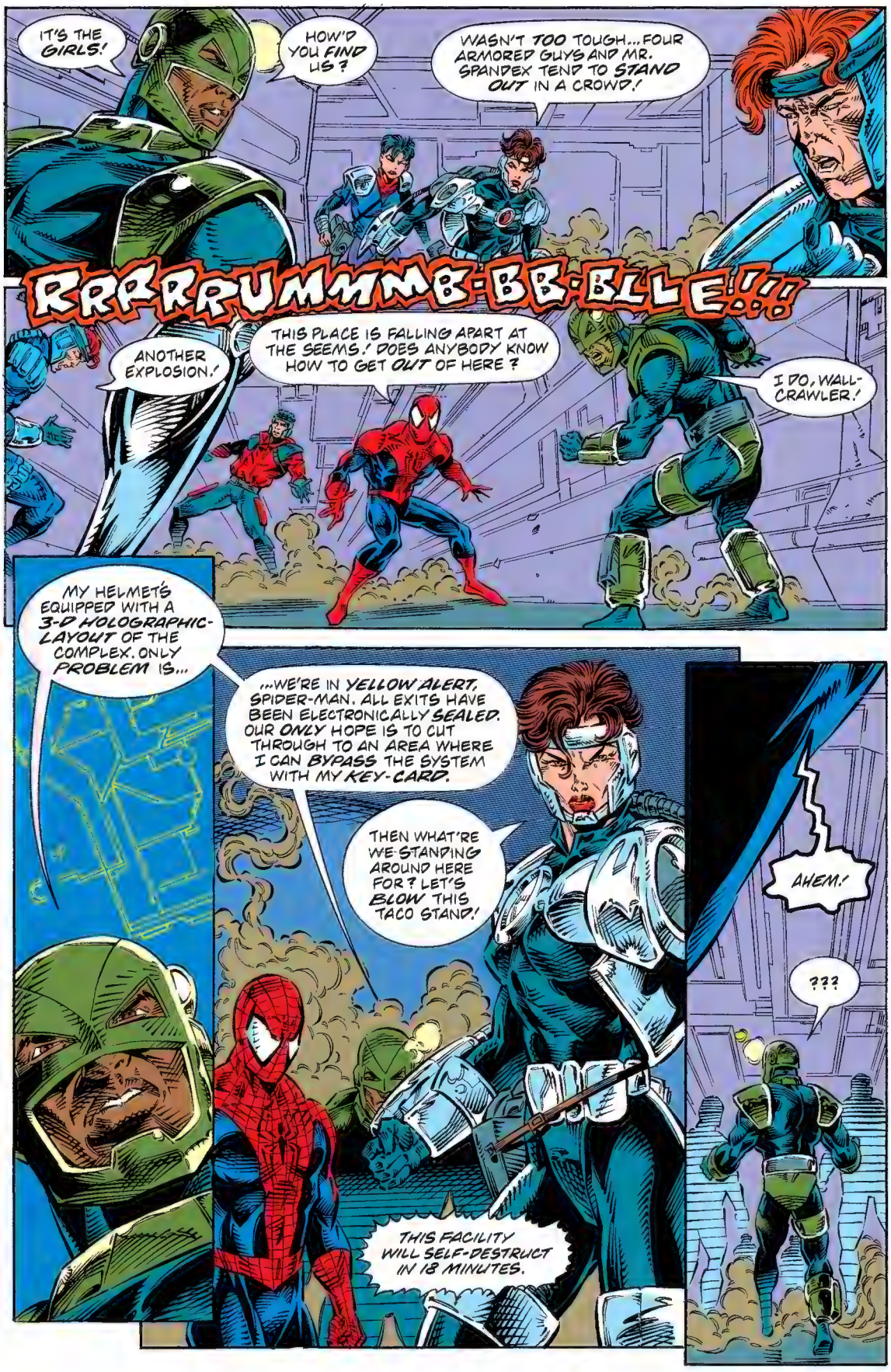

...BUT I LOST A BROTHER!
AND MY FATHER... GENERAL ORWELL TAYLOR... LOST HIS FIRSTBORN SON!
THAT MONSTER WAS JUSTLY INCARCERATED, AND MURDERED GOOD MEN IN COLD BLOOD TO REGAIN HIS FREEDOM. AND IT'S OUR JOB... NO...
...OUR DUTY... ...TO AVENGE THOSE PEOPLE!
YOU ALL HAVE YOUR REASONS FOR BEING A PART OF THIS.
SENTRY... MY BROTHER MAX WAS YOUR FRIEND. BOMBLAST... YOU'RE A HIGHLY TRAINED MERCENARY, ON THIS RIDE FOR THE BUCKS. FIREARM... YOUR SCIENTIFIC CURIOSITY ABOUT ALIEN LIFE WILL ONLY BE SATISFIED WHEN YOU AUTOPSY THIS BEAST. AND EVEN YOU, RAMSHOT...
...YOU WERE JUST A BURNED-OUT, DRUG-ADDICTED COP WHEN MY FATHER FOUND YOU AND DUSTED YOU OFF. YOU OWE HIM FOR SAVING YOUR LIFE!
ALTHOUGH FRANKLY, I COULDN'T CARE LESS WHY ANY OF YOU ARE HERE. THAT SPACE-BORN FREAK KILLED MY BROTHER. I DON'T CARE WHY ANY OF YOU TAKE HIM DOWN...
...AS LONG AS YOU DO.
CUT TO: A HOTEL ROOM IN SAN FRANCISCO.
SO DRAKE AND HIS BUDDIES HAVE MOVED THEIR PLAYPEN TO THE CAPITAL, HAVE THEY? LOOKS LIKE I'M HEADED FOR DC!
WHAT?
WHY, OF COURSE WE CAN VISIT OUR PESKY PAL SPIDER-MAN WHILE WE'RE THERE!
MORE ON THIS GUY NEXT ISSUE.


CUT TO: SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT.
WELCOME TO APOLLO AIRLINES, SIR...
...YOUR FIRST CLASS ACCOMMODATIONS ARE STRAIGHT AHEAD. ARE YOU FLYING FOR BUSINESS OR PLEASURE?
BOTH.
I'M ATTENDING A REUNION.


CUT TO: WASHINGTON DC INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 10 AM.
HELP!! I'VE BEEN ROBBED!!
THIS IS THE CITY, LADY... AIN'T NOBODY GONNA HELP YA!
MOMMY... THAT MAN TOOK OUR MONEY!
ARE WE SEEING THINGS? HE'S DEAD ...HIS NECK BROKEN!!
BUT HOW DID HE GET THIRTY FEET IN THE AIR?!
DON'T WORRY, MA'AM... WE'LL CATCH HIM!!
WHAT DID HE LOOK LIKE?
LIKE A MAN CARRYING MY MOM'S PURSE, YOU DUMMY-HEAD
SHEESH ...KIDS TODAY... GULP!!
WHO COULD'VE DONE THIS... IN MERE SECONDS?!?
THE ANSWER...

... IS ALREADY MOVING THROUGH THE CITY.
WE CAME HERE TO THE CAPITAL AFTER WITNESSING THE LIFE FOUNDATION'S DIGGER ATTACK ON THAT YOUNG GIRL...*
...AND ALTHOUGH WE DON'T KNOW WHY THEY'D BE SO BRAZEN AS TO KIDNAP HER IN PUBLIC LIKE THEY DID, IT'S HARDLY AS IF WE NEEDED A REASON TO SETTLE OUR SCORE WITH CARLTON DRAKE AND COMPANY!
WHAT'S THAT? SPIDER-MAN?!
HE SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM, NOT WITH OUR CURRENT ARRANGEMENT. BESIDES, THE LIFERS ARE A MUTUAL FOE.
BUT YOUR POINT IS DULY NOTED. DRAKE AND TREECE ARE THE BRAINS OF THE OPERATION... THEY ARE THE ONES MOST DESERVING OF OUR WRATH, NOT MERE LACKEYS!
MMMMMMMMMMM. ALL THIS TALK ABOUT BRAINS IS MAKING VENOM HUNGRY!
*ISSUE #2. --ERIC


WHILE...
THIS IS BAD, TREECE. THIS MORNING WE WERE WITHIN INCHES OF HAVING EVERYTHING WE DESIRED...
...NOW WE MAY BE OUT OF BUSINESS BY LUNCH!
MAKE ALL THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS FOR EXFILTRATION. I'LL NEED A SHUTTLE BIRD WARMED UP AND READY, AND ALL BANK ACCOUNTS TRANSFERRED TO LIQUID ASSETS.
OF COURSE, SIR. IT'S NOT AS IF WE HAVEN'T HAD TO DO THIS BEFORE!*
SIGH... FIRST SPIDER-MAN CATCHES ON TO US, NOW THE JURY'S REVOLTING!
WHAT ELSE COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG??!!
*SEE VENOM: LETHAL PROTECTOR #6.--Eric
ABOVE GROUND.
WE'VE CRISSCROSSED THE CITY LOOKING FOR LIKELY HIDE-OUTS FOR THE LIFERS' BUNKER...
...BUT WERE ABLE TO PIECE TOGETHER INFO WE...'OBTAINED"... TO LEAD US HERE.
WHAT? YOU SAY OUR PESKY PAL SPIDER-MAN MAY BE DOWN THERE? WHAT SAY WE GO VISIT THE ARACH-NERD?
SNIFF-SNIFF! I SMELL TROUBLE...
...FOR THE LIFE FOUNDATION!
HOO-HA!!


IT'S THE GIRLS!
HOW'D YOU FIND US?
WASN'T TOO TOUGH... FOUR ARMORED GUYS AND MR. SPANDEX TEND TO STAND OUT IN A CROWD.!
RRRRRUMMMB-BB-BLLE!!!
ANOTHER EXPLOSION.!
THIS PLACE IS FALLING APART AT THE SEEMS.! DOES ANYBODY KNOW HOW TO GET OUT OF HERE?
I DO, WALL-CRAWLER!
MY HELMET'S EQUIPPED WITH A 3-D HOLOGRAPHIC-LAYOUT OF THE COMPLEX. ONLY PROBLEM IS...
...WE'RE IN YELLOW ALERT, SPIDER-MAN. ALL EXITS HAVE BEEN ELECTRONICALLY SEALED. OUR ONLY HOPE IS TO CUT THROUGH TO AN AREA WHERE I CAN BYPASS THE SYSTEM WITH MY KEY-CARD.
THEN WHAT'RE WE STANDING AROUND HERE FOR? LET'S BLOW THIS TACO STAND!
THIS FACILITY WILL SELF-DESTRUCT IN 18 MINUTES.
AHEM.!
???

NO... NOT NOW!! PLEASE DON'T LET IT BE...
VENOM!
HEH-HEH! THE ONE AND ONLY.
THIS FACILITY WILL SELF-DESTRUCT IN 17 MINUTES, 30 SECONDS.
NUTS! I WAS HOPING TO TAKE MY TIME, TEARING YOU GUYS APART...
...NOW, IT LOOKS LIKE I'VE GOTTA RUSH!
HOO-HA!!
NEXT ISSUE:
VENOM v. THE JURY! SPIDEY v. VENOM! THE JURY v. VENOM! DRAKE MONSTER v. EVERYBODY! IT'S THE AWESOME CONCLUSION!

MARVEL COMICS
SPIDER-MAN
THE ARACHNIS PROJECT
THE CATACLYSMIC CONCLUSION
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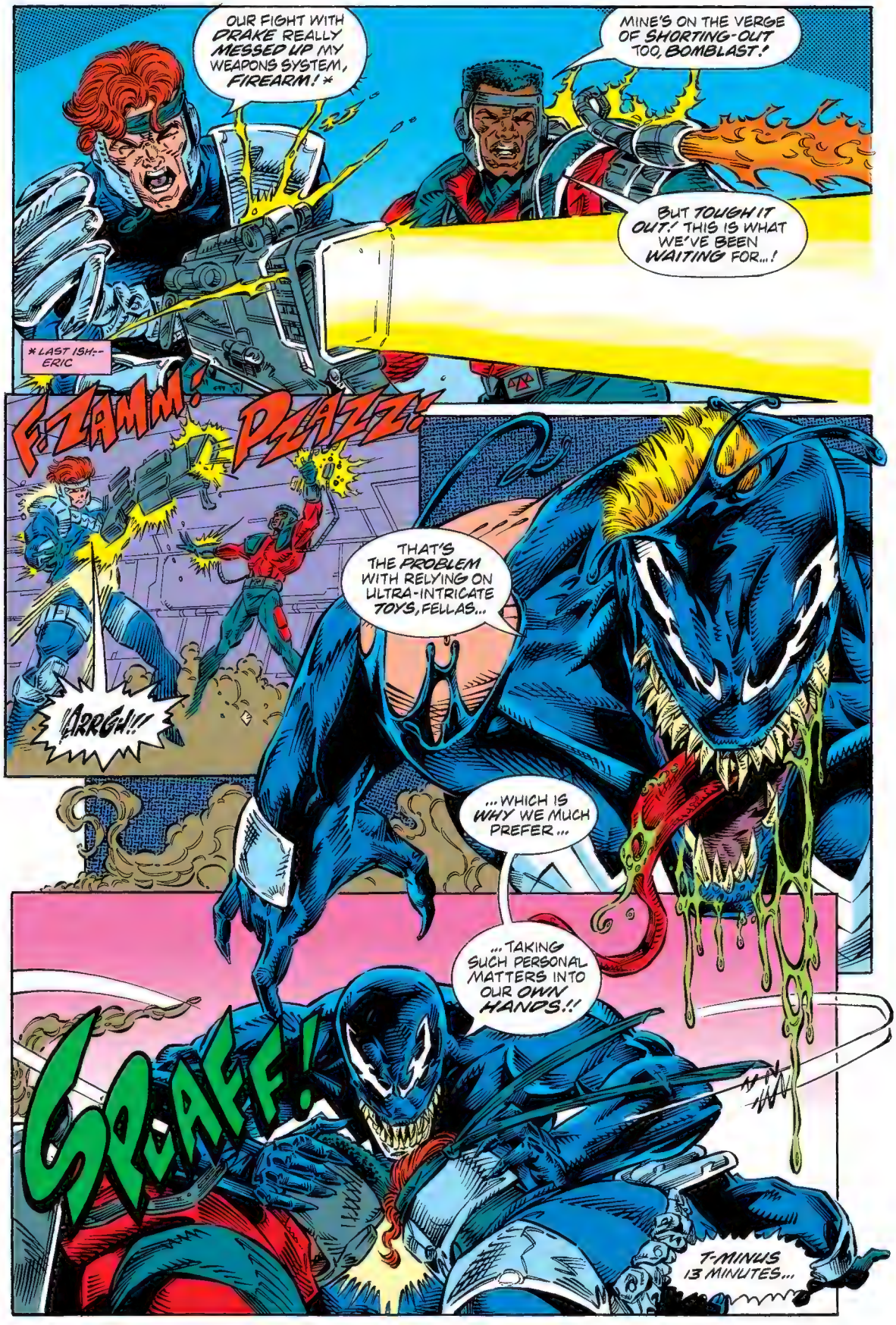
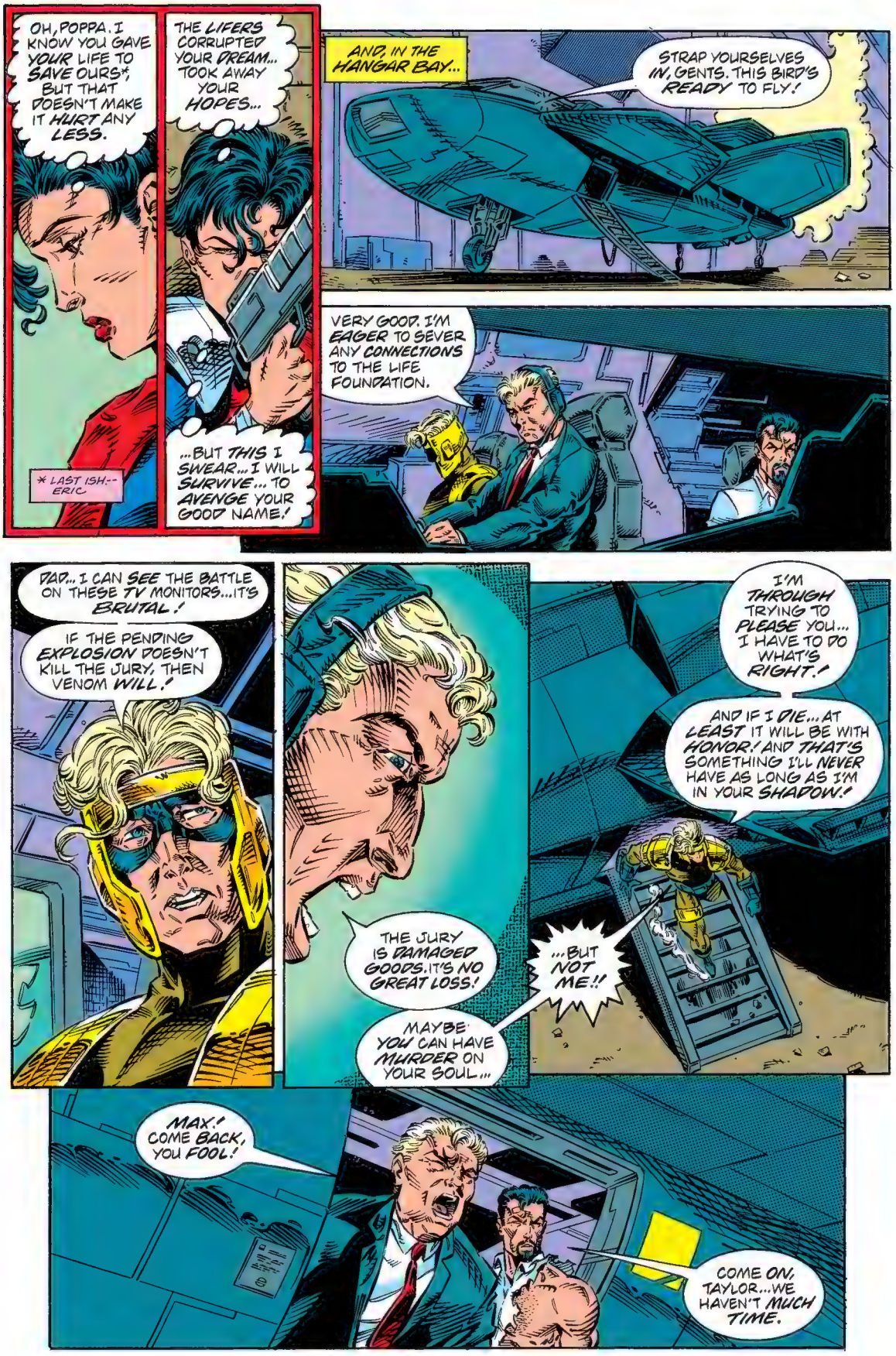
6 JAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SPIDEY'S GOT TO RESCUE VENOM AND THE JURY...
THERE'S JUST ONE CATCH--
--THEY DON'T WANT TO BE RESCUED!

STAN LEE Presents: SPIDER-MAN in the CONCLUDING chapter of THE ARACHNIS PROJECT!
BATTLE ROYAL!
THE STORY SO FAR: SPIDER-MAN AND THE JURY ARE TRAPPED IN THE UNDERGROUND BUNKER OF THE LIFE FOUNDATION. NOW, MINUTES BEFORE THE BASE IS DUE TO SELF-DESTRUCT, VENOM APPEARS, OUT FOR BLOOD...
MIKE LACKEY.....SCRIPT
ANDREW WILDMAN.....PENCILS
STEPHEN BASKERVILLE.....INKS
CHIA-CHI WANG.....COLORS
JADE MOEDE.....LETTERS
ERIC FEIN.....EDITS
DANNY FINGEROTH....GROUP EDITS
TOM DeFALCO.....CHIEF
WE SAW THE LIVE TV COVERAGE OF THE DIGGER ASSAULT ON THE SNEAK-THIEF * AND FLEW OUT EAST TO DEAL WITH MY OLD FOES, THE LIFERS...
...SINCE WE MISSED ALL THE ACTION WITH THEM...
...WE'LL KILL YOU SAPS INSTEAD!
THIS FACILITY WILL SELF-DESTRUCT IN T-MINUS 15 MINUTES.
OVERIDE OPTION EXPIRES AT T-MINUS 10 MINUTES. THIS BASE IS ON YELLOW ALERT.
NO, VENOM! I WON'T LET YOU KILL THEM!!
* ISSUE #2:- ERIC

FOR ALL THEIR TRAINING AND TOUGH TALK, THE JURY'S MOMENT OF TRUTH HAS FINALLY COME AND THEY'RE BLOWING IT BIG TIME!
SORRY, SPIDER-MAN. ALTHOUGH WE NO LONGER WISH TO KILL YOU, WE WON'T LET YOU STOP US FROM KILLING OUR OTHER ENEMIES!
FIRE AT WILL, RAMSHOT!! THAT MURDERING MONSTER'S GOING DOWN... NOW!
I'LL DO WHAT I CAN, SENTRY...
...BUT OUR ARMOR'S POWER SOURCES ARE DEPLETED NOW, WHEN WE NEED THEM MORE THAN EVER!
AAIEEEEEEE
PZOWWW!!
STOP!! YOUR SONICS'LL KILL HIM!
THAT'S THE IDEA, WALL-CRAWLER!
THERE'S NO TIME FOR THIS!
THE BUNKER IS GONNA BLOW SKY HIGH IN A MATTER OF MINUTES! THE NUCLEAR REACTORS ARE OVERHEATING AND THERE'S NO WAY TO STOP IT!
7-MINUS 14 MINUTES...

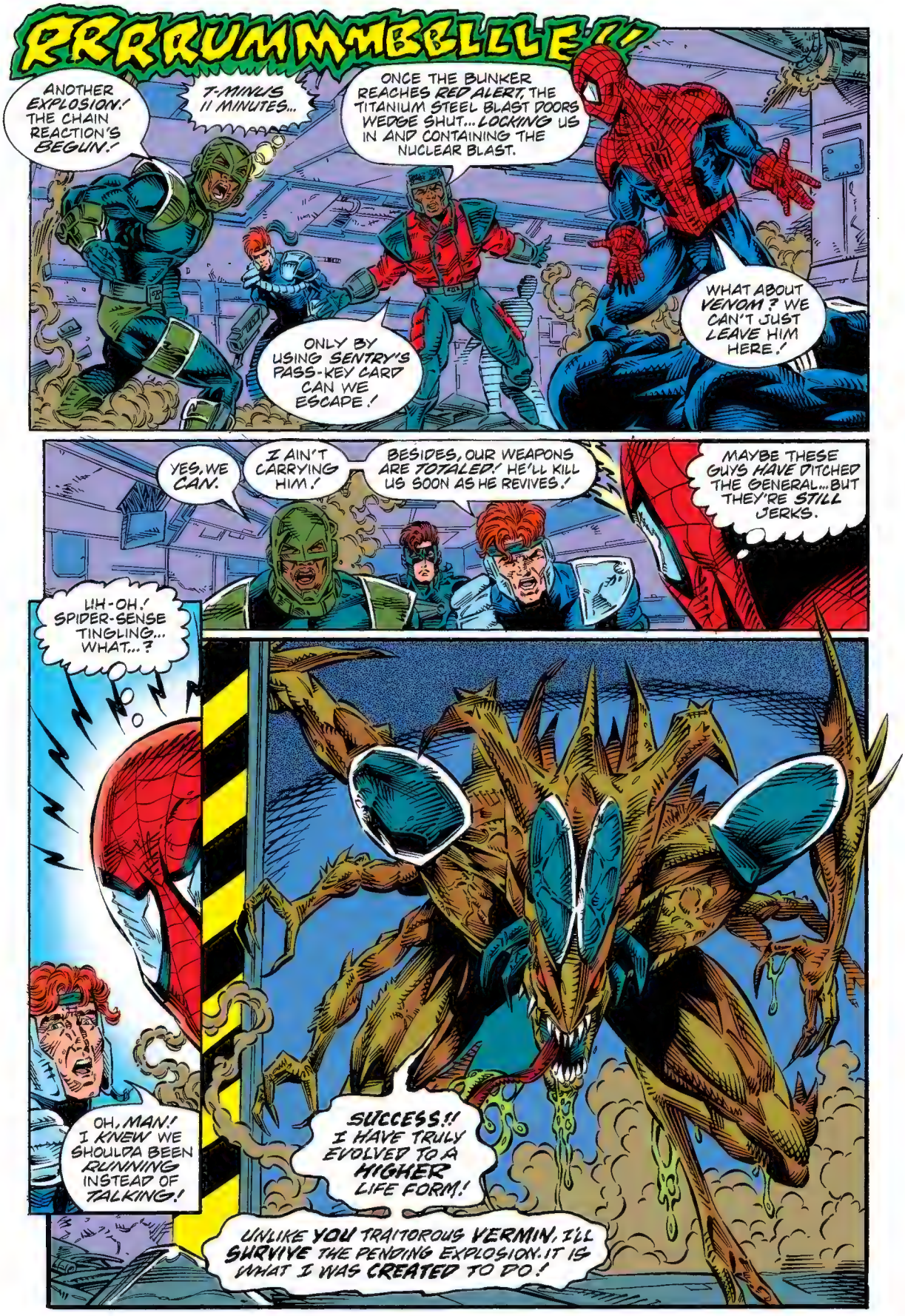

OUR FIGHT WITH DRAKE REALLY MESSED UP MY WEAPONS SYSTEM, FIREARM! *
MINE'S ON THE VERGE OF SHORTING-OUT TOO, BOMBLAST!
BUT TOUGH IT OUT! THIS IS WHAT WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR...!
* LAST ISH:- ERIC
F-ZAMM!
PLAZZ!
ARRGH!!
THAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH RELYING ON ULTRA-INTRICATE TOYS, FELLAS...
...WHICH IS WHY WE MUCH PREFER...
...TAKING SUCH PERSONAL MATTERS INTO OUR OWN HANDS!!
SP-AFF!
T-MINUS 13 MINUTES...

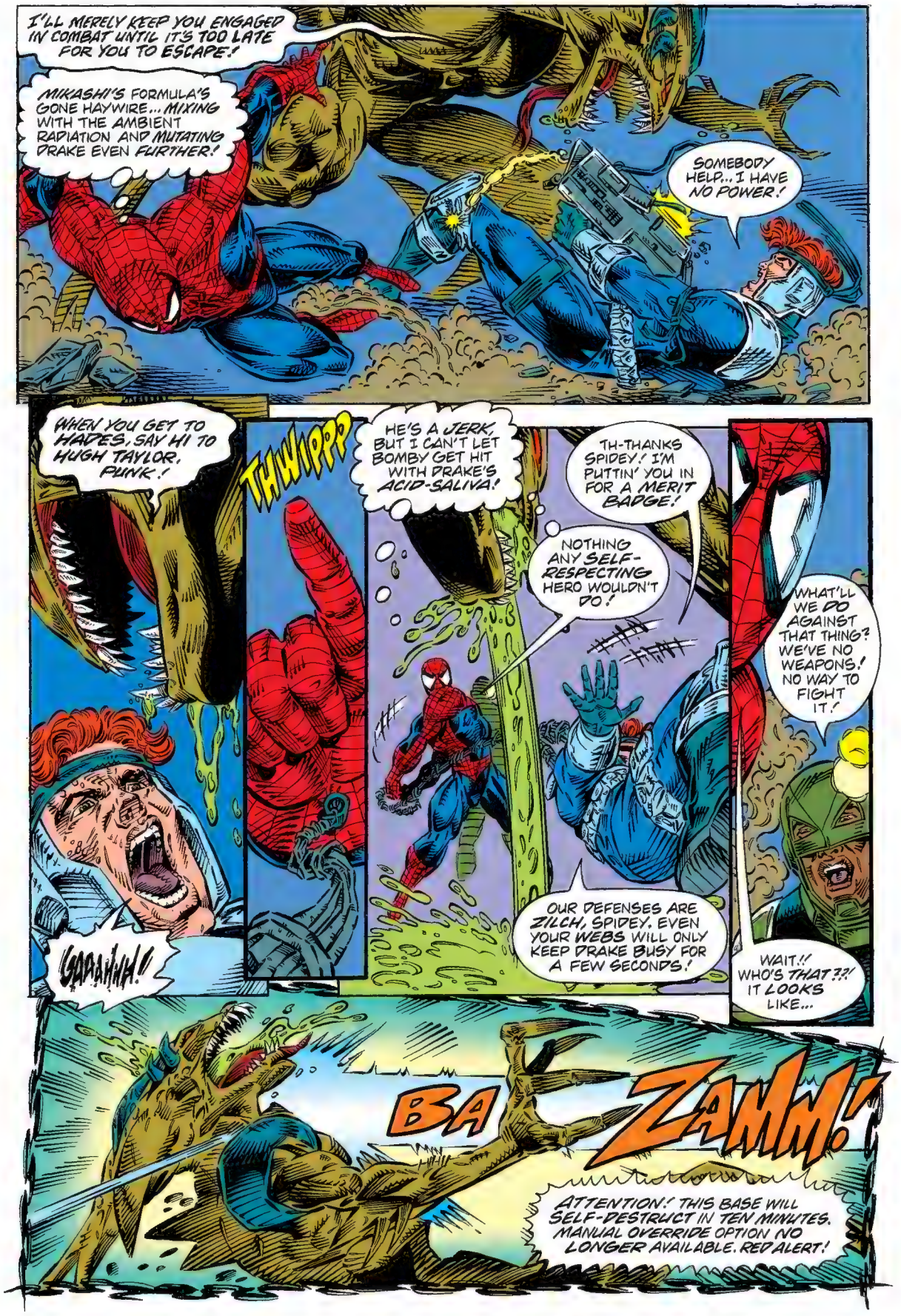
PLEASE, VENOM...
SPLAK
WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE! THE LIFERS HAVE RIGGED THIS PLACE TO SELF-DESTRUCT!
I HOPE HE LISTENS TO REASON... FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN WE'RE ALL BATTLE-WEARY WHILE HE'S FRESH AS A DEMENTED DAISY!
WE'RE UNCONVINCED, SPIDER-MAN.
WE SEE YOUR POINT. COMBAT IS FUTILE.
WE MUST GET THE INNOCENT GIRL-CHILD TO SAFETY!
YEGARROG!!
FZZAP
THEN TURN AROUND! MIHO THERE MUST BE SAVED!
THANKS FOR THE DISTRACTION, SPIDER-MAN!
HMMMMMM.
WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON,...EH?
THAT WASN'T A DISTRACTION, YOU MORON... I WAS TRYING TO SAVE YOUR SORRY LIVES!
WEB-LINE CLOGGING MY FIRING MECHANISM...!
FA-BAZZHH!
HOO-HA!
PLIP.
THIS IS ALL SPINNING OUT OF CONTROL! HOW DO I SAVE A BUNCH OF GUNG-HO GUYS WHO DON'T SEEM TO WANT ME TO?!?


OH, POPPA. I KNOW YOU GAVE YOUR LIFE TO SAVE OURS*, BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE IT HURT ANY LESS.
THE LIFERS CORRUPTED YOUR DREAM... TOOK AWAY YOUR HOPES...
...BUT THIS I SWEAR... I WILL SURVIVE... TO AVENGE YOUR GOOD NAME!
* LAST ISH.-- ERIC
AND, IN THE HANGAR BAY...
STRAP YOURSELVES IN, GENTS. THIS BIRD'S READY TO FLY!
VERY GOOD. I'M EAGER TO SEVER ANY CONNECTIONS TO THE LIFE FOUNDATION.
DAD... I CAN SEE THE BATTLE ON THESE TV MONITORS...IT'S BRUTAL!
IF THE PENDING EXPLOSION DOESN'T KILL THE JURY, THEN VENOM WILL!
THE JURY IS DAMAGED GOODS. IT'S NO GREAT LOSS!
MAYBE YOU CAN HAVE MURDER ON YOUR SOUL...
I'M THROUGH TRYING TO PLEASE YOU... I HAVE TO DO WHAT'S RIGHT!
AND IF I DIE... AT LEAST IT WILL BE WITH HONOR! AND THAT'S SOMETHING I'LL NEVER HAVE AS LONG AS I'M IN YOUR SHADOW!
...BUT NOT ME!!
MAX! COME BACK, YOU FOOL!
COME ON, TAYLOR...WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME.

MEANWHILE.
DEAL'S OFF, WEB-HEAD! BACK TO KNUCKLE-BUSTING.
YOU'RE INSANE!! WE'LL DIE!!
GUILTY, AS CHARGED.
TOO BAD YOUR SPIDER-SENSE DOESN'T WARN YOU TO DUCK AS WE BACKHAND OLD BOMBLAST, HERE!
WE DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU... BUT STANDING BETWEEN US AND OUR APPOINTED ROUNDS IS SHEER FOLLY!
SHAKK
UGH! HE'S RIGHT! VENOM DOESN'T REGISTER ON MY SPIDER-SENSE AT ALL! GOTTA BE MORE CAREFUL!
DIE! PUPPET OF THE LIFE FOUNDATION!
YOU TALKIN' TO US? WE DON'T WORK FOR...!
OWCH.
ARE THERE NO INNOCENTS ANYWHERE?
MUST WE KILL YOU ALL?!
NO ONE ELSE CAN HELP HER. SHE'LL SUFFOCATE!
SHE'LL DIE...UNLESS I KILL VENOM!!
SYMBIOTE'S TENDRILS... SLINKING DOWN MIHO'S THROAT!
BUT... CAN I KILL ANYBODY?
AIN'T YOU HEARD, RAMSHOT?
HE WHO HESITATES IS TOAST!!

WHAT WAS THAT FOR? HOPING WE'D TAKE OUR TOYS AND GO HOME?!
ACTUALLY, YES!
ALL REMAINING PERSONNEL HAVE FLED... WE'RE THE ONLY ONES LEFT DOWN HERE!
T-MINUS 12 MINUTES!
DON'T FRET, WEBS! WITH THEIR ARMOR DOWN, WE'LL HAVE YOUR JURY PALS FILLETED IN MERE SECONDS, THEN IT'S BACK TO SAN FRAN!
AND SINCE WE'RE FEELING PARTICULARLY MAGNANIMOUS, WE'LL EVEN LET YOU TAKE THE GIRL.
KRA-ZARKK
ARRRGH!! WE HATE SONIC WEAPONS!!
SPUTTER... GASP!
LEAVE HER ALONE, VENOM... NO MORE KILLING!!
I DIDN'T... COULDN'T KILL HIM, BUT I COULDN'T LET HIM KILL HER EITHER!
YOU DID THE RIGHT THING, RAMMY. A TRUE HERO DOESN'T TAKE A LIFE... FOR ANY REASON.
NOW, SINCE WE'RE ALL SO CHUMMY, LET'S SPLIT! TIME AND NUCLEAR BOMBS WAIT FOR NO MAN!

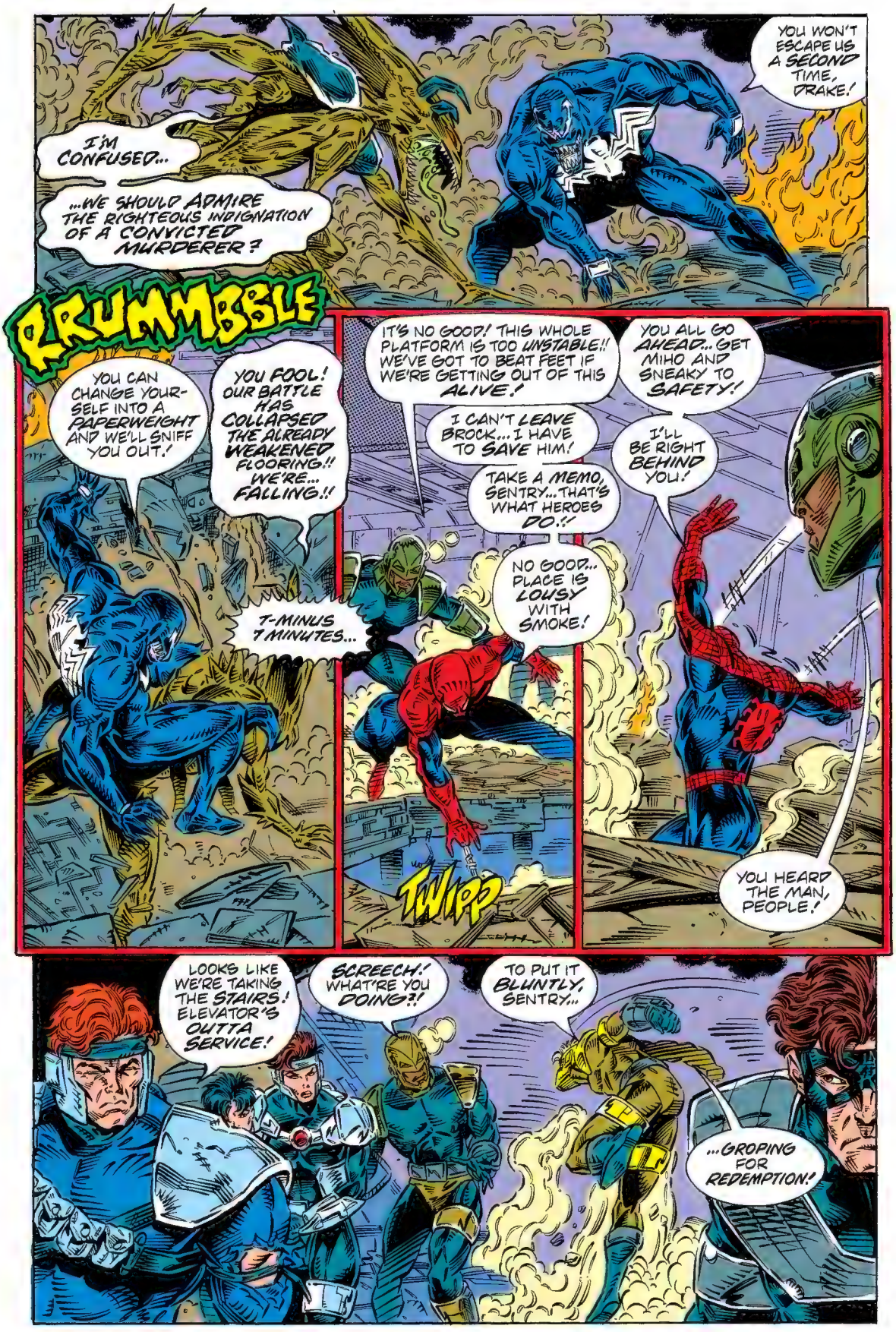

RRRUMMMBBLLLE!!
ANOTHER EXPLOSION! THE CHAIN REACTION'S BEGUN!
7-MINUS 11 MINUTES...
ONCE THE BUNKER REACHES RED ALERT, THE TITANIUM STEEL BLAST DOORS WEDGE SHUT... LOCKING US IN AND CONTAINING THE NUCLEAR BLAST.
WHAT ABOUT VENOM? WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE HIM HERE!
ONLY BY USING SENTRY'S PASS-KEY CARD CAN WE ESCAPE!
YES, WE CAN.
I AIN'T CARRYING HIM!
BESIDES, OUR WEAPONS ARE TOTALED! HE'LL KILL US SOON AS HE REVIVES!
MAYBE THESE GUYS HAVE DITCHED THE GENERAL... BUT THEY'RE STILL JERKS.
UH-OH! SPIDER-SENSE TINGLING... WHAT...?
OH, MAN! I KNEW WE SHOULDA BEEN RUNNING INSTEAD OF TALKING!
SUCCESS!! I HAVE TRULY EVOLVED TO A HIGHER LIFE FORM!
UNLIKE YOU TRAITOROUS VERMIN, I'LL SURVIVE THE PENDING EXPLOSION. IT IS WHAT I WAS CREATED TO DO!

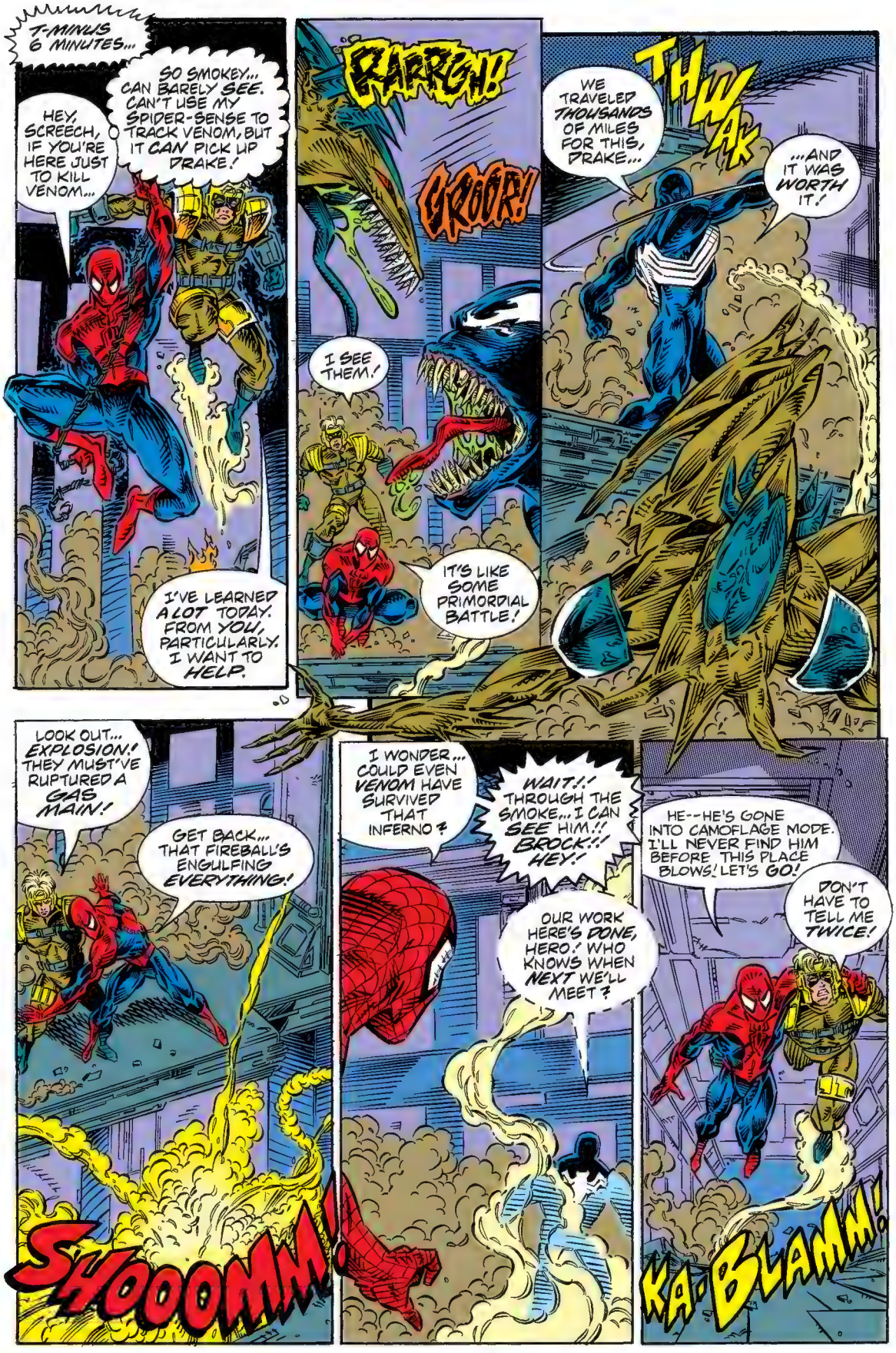

I'LL MERELY KEEP YOU ENGAGED IN COMBAT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE FOR YOU TO ESCAPE!
MIKASHI'S FORMULA'S GONE HAYWIRE... MIXING WITH THE AMBIENT RADIATION AND MUTATING DRAKE EVEN FURTHER!
SOMEBODY HELP... I HAVE NO POWER!
WHEN YOU GET TO HADES, SAY HI TO HUGH TAYLOR, PUNK!
THWIPPP
HE'S A JERK, BUT I CAN'T LET BOMBY GET HIT WITH DRAKE'S ACID-SALIVA!
TH-THANKS SPIDEY! I'M PUTTIN' YOU IN FOR A MERIT BADGE!
NOTHING ANY SELF-RESPECTING HERO WOULDN'T DO!
WHAT'LL WE DO AGAINST THAT THING? WE'VE NO WEAPONS! NO WAY TO FIGHT IT!
SQUAHHH!!
OUR DEFENSES ARE ZILCH, SPIDEY. EVEN YOUR WEBS WILL ONLY KEEP DRAKE BUSY FOR A FEW SECONDS!
WAIT!! WHO'S THAT?!? IT LOOKS LIKE...
BA ZAMM!
ATTENTION! THIS BASE WILL SELF-DESTRUCT IN TEN MINUTES. MANUAL OVERRIDE OPTION NO LONGER AVAILABLE. RED ALERT!

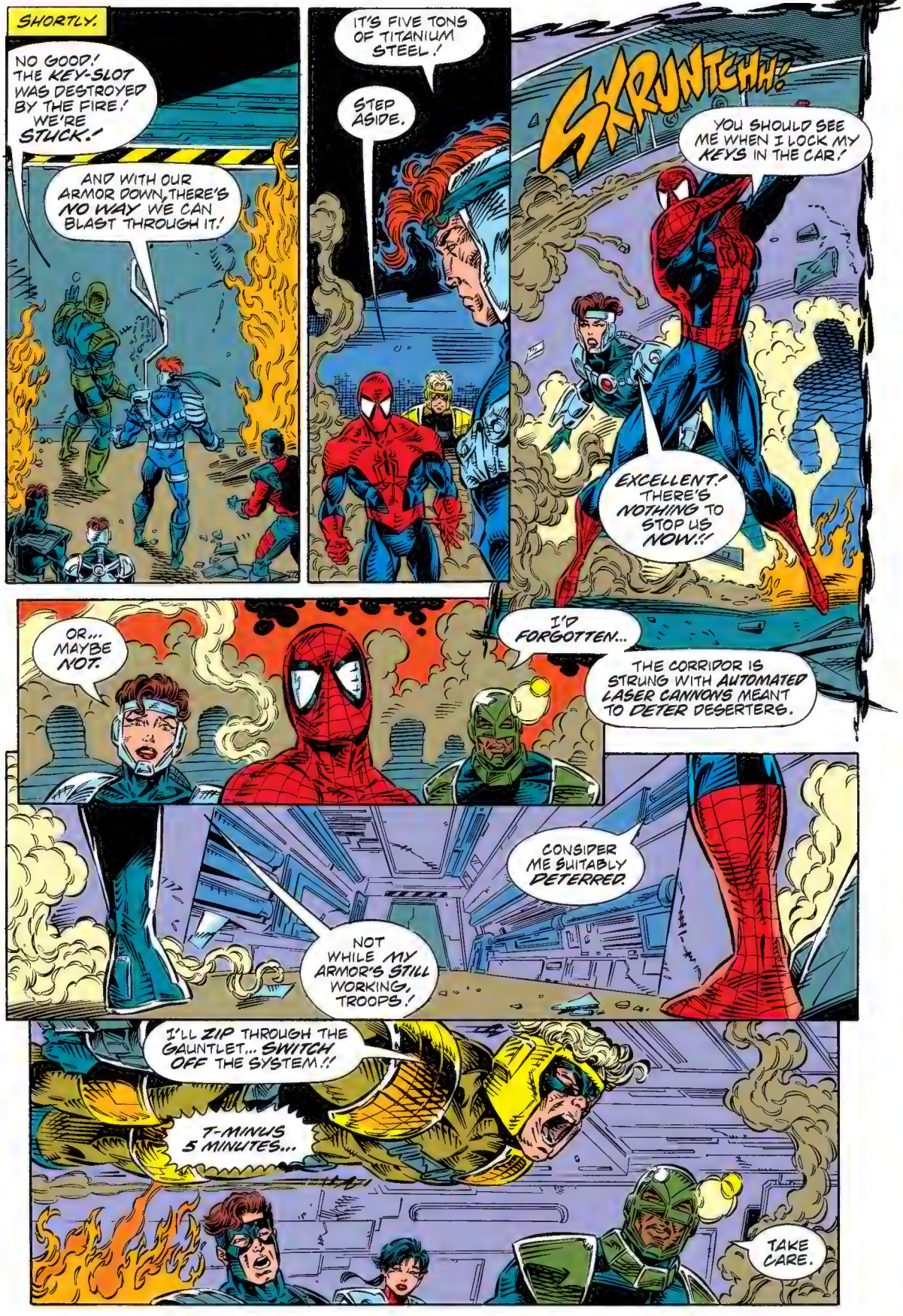
I COULDN'T STAND BY AND WATCH YOU GUYS DIE!!
FOR BETTER OR WORSE, I'M ONE OF YOU!!
SCREECH!
YOU'RE TAYLOR'S BRAT! WELL, I'LL GIVE HIM A MATCHED SET OF DEAD KIDS!!
BESIDES, NOW YOU'RE LOCKED IN WITH ME!
YOU TAKE THE LOW ROAD, SPIDEY... I'LL TAKE THE HIGH ONE!
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE MY POWERS HAVE BEEN SO SORELY TESTED! I HAVEN'T SAT STILL SINCE I GOT HERE!
NUTS! WE'RE CUT OFF BY THE FLAMES! THEY'RE ON THEIR OWN AGAINST THAT THING!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT SCREECH CAME BACK FOR US!
KNOW WHATCHA MEAN. MAYBE HE AIN'T SUCH A JERK AFTER ALL!
STAY STILL... I HATE IT WHEN MY FOOD SQUIRMS TOO MUCH!
MY FIREPOWER MIGHT BE GONE, BUT YOU CAN STILL COUNT ME IN THIS FIGHT!
T-MINUS 9 MINUTES...

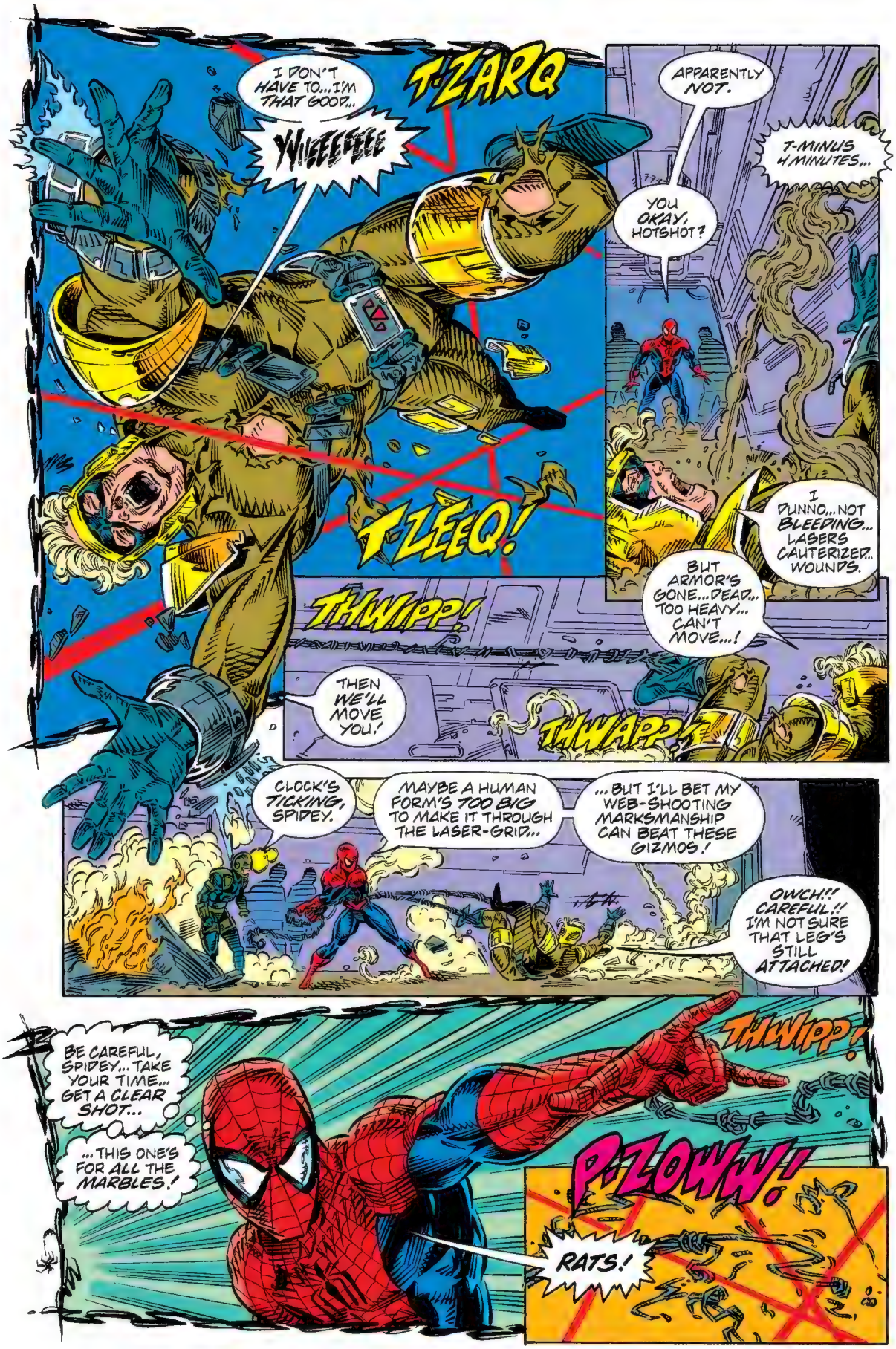
NOTHING, IT SEEMS, CAN STOP US NOW, GENERAL.
WE'VE GOT ALL THE LOOT FROM THE "CAPITAL CRIME WAVE," DITCHED OUR ENEMIES, AND FINALLY KILLED THOSE ARACHNOID PESTS!
HMM? I'M SORRY?
SNAP OUT OF IT, MAN! I NEED YOU ALERT!
I WAS ONLY THINKING, TREECE... THINKING ABOUT THE PAST.
BACK IN THE BUNKER.
SPIDER-MAN'S RIGHT! WE'VE GOT TO COMBINE EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT INTO ONE FINAL BURST!
ARRRGH!! IT SHALL AVAIL YOU NOT! I AM POWER SUPREME!!
I'M CARLTON DRAKE... HOMO ARACHNISSS— AARRRGGHH!!!
FZZAMM!
PZOOKW!!
TWIPP!!
CRASSHHH!
HURRY... BEFORE DRAKE DIGS HIMSELF OUT! HELP ME WITH VENOM!
WE CAN'T WASTE ANY MORE TIME FIGHTING, SCREECH! AND IF NONE OF YOU WILL CARRY VENOM OUT OF HERE, I WILL!!
LISTEN... COMING BACK FOR YOU GUYS WAS ONLY PART OF THE REASON I RETURNED..
...THE OTHER WAS TO MAKE SURE IT WAS MY HAND THAT KILLED VENOM!!
WE'RE DOING IT!! WE'RE DRIVING HIM BACK!
LOOK OUT!! THE CEILING'S COMING DOWN!!
THIS BETTER WORK... THIS IS THE LAST OF MY BATTERY!
NO WAY DOES THAT MURDERER COME WITH US!

GUESS AGAIN, TWERP.
T-MINUS 8 MINUTES...
WE'VE UNFINISHED BUSINESS WITH YOU, IT'S TRUE...
...BUT FOR NOW, WE'VE BIGGER FISH TO FRY!!
YAAUUGH! HE'S AWAKE!
GO AHEAD, MONSTER! I... I'M NOT AFRAID TO DIE!!
I DON'T GET IT! VENOM'S LETTING HIM... GO?!?
WAITAMINUTE! STOP, VENOM! I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING!
WE'VE NOT MANY FRAILTIES... YOU KNOW THAT!
SONICS... CONCUSSIVE BLASTS... AND FIRE!
BUT WHAT ARE OUR FEARS, COMPARED TO THOSE DRAKE INSTILLS IN COUNTLESS INNOCENTS?!
DO YOU, KNOW? HOW CAN YOU, POSSIBLY?
WHAT IS OUR PAIN, WHEN HELD UP TO THE TRAGEDIES THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES WILL SUFFER IF THE LIFERS' EVIL SCHEMES COME TO FRUITION?
WHAT IS OUR DEATH, WHEN WEIGHED AGAINST THE PEACE THIS MONSTER'S DESTRUCTION WILL BRING?!
SCREEEE!

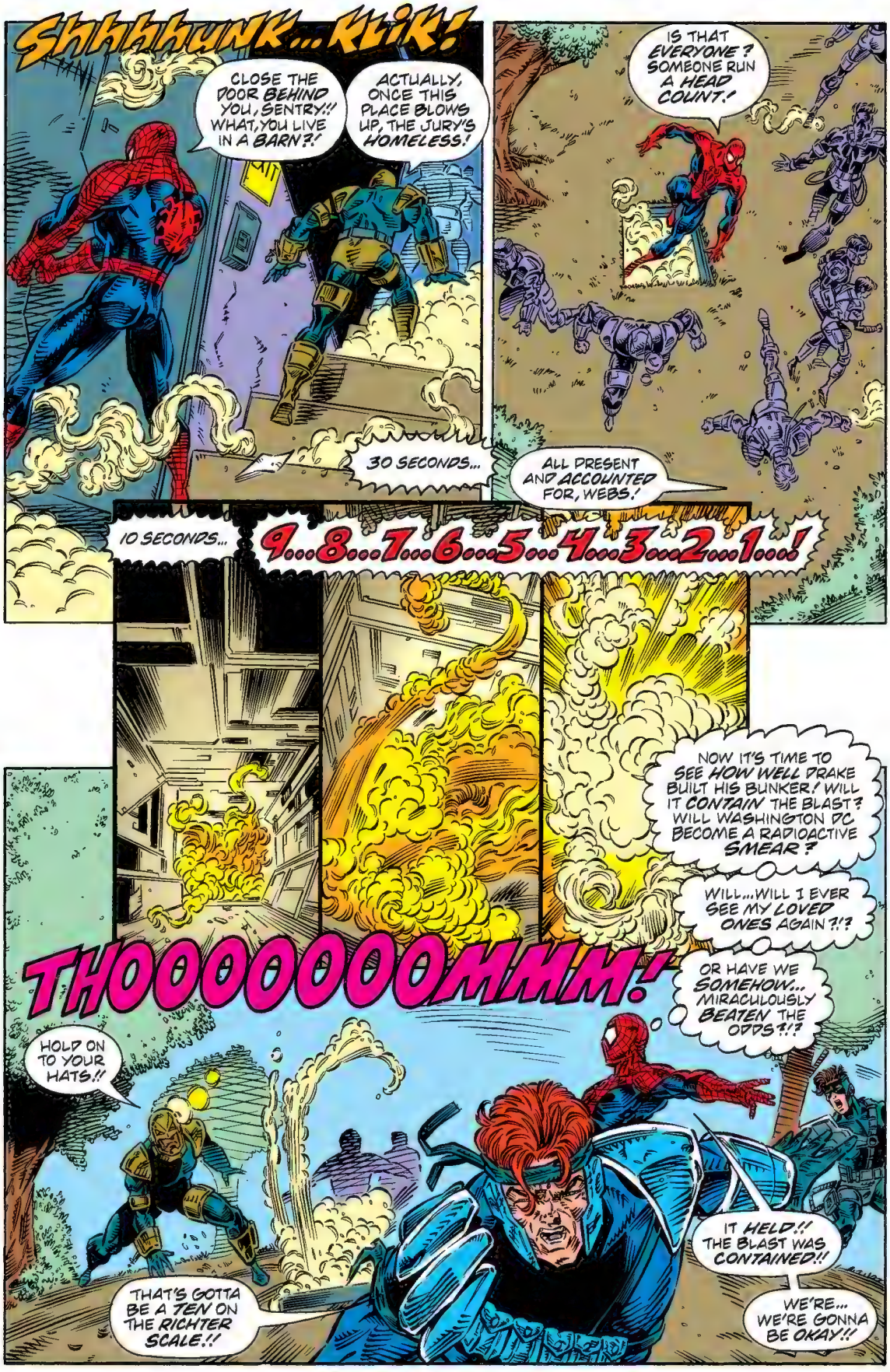

I'M CONFUSED...
...WE SHOULD ADMIRE THE RIGHTEOUS INDIGNATION OF A CONVICTED MURDERER?
YOU WON'T ESCAPE US A SECOND TIME, DRAKE!
RRUMMBBLE
YOU CAN CHANGE YOURSELF INTO A PAPERWEIGHT AND WE'LL SNIFF YOU OUT.'
YOU FOOL! OUR BATTLE HAS COLLAPSED THE ALREADY WEAKENED FLOORING!! WE'RE... FALLING!!
T-MINUS 7 MINUTES...
IT'S NO GOOD! THIS WHOLE PLATFORM IS TOO UNSTABLE!! WE'VE GOT TO BEAT FEET IF WE'RE GETTING OUT OF THIS ALIVE!
I CAN'T LEAVE BROCK... I HAVE TO SAVE HIM!
TAKE A MEMO, SENTRY... THAT'S WHAT HEROES DO.!!
NO GOOD... PLACE IS LOUSY WITH SMOKE!
TWIPP
YOU ALL GO AHEAD... GET MIHO AND SNEAKY TO SAFETY!
I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU!
YOU HEARD THE MAN, PEOPLE!
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE TAKING THE STAIRS! ELEVATOR'S OUTTA SERVICE!
SCREECH! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
TO PUT IT BLUNTLY, SENTRY...
...GROPING FOR REDEMPTION!

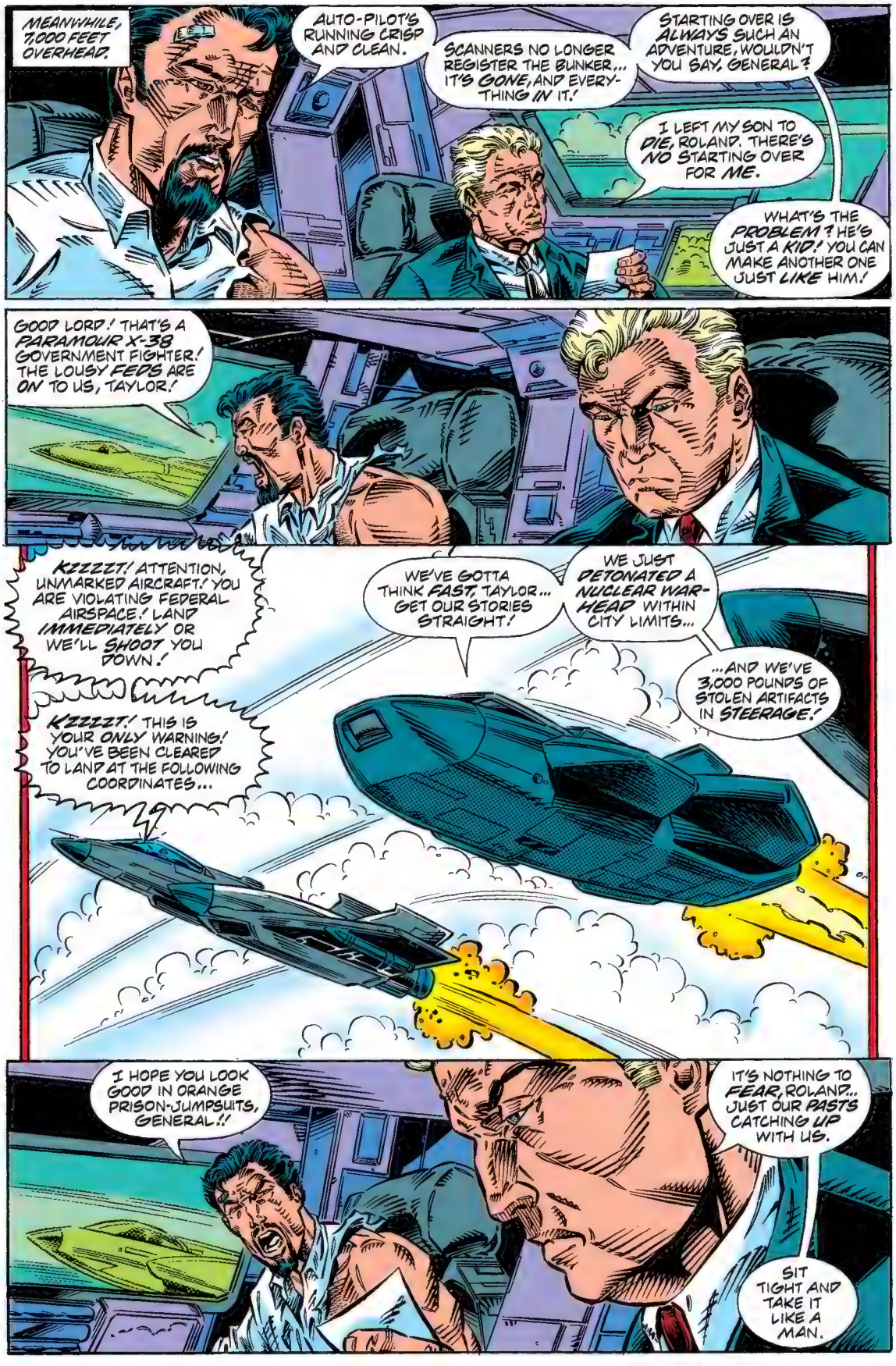

T-MINUS 6 MINUTES...
HEY, SCREECH, IF YOU'RE HERE JUST TO KILL VENOM...
SO SMOKEY... CAN BARELY SEE. CAN'T USE MY SPIDER-SENSE TO TRACK VENOM, BUT IT CAN PICK UP DRAKE!
I'VE LEARNED A LOT TODAY. FROM YOU, PARTICULARLY. I WANT TO HELP.
RARRGH!
GROOR!
I SEE THEM!
IT'S LIKE SOME PRIMORDIAL BATTLE!
WE TRAVELED THOUSANDS OF MILES FOR THIS, DRAKE...
THWAK
...AND IT WAS WORTH IT!
LOOK OUT... EXPLOSION! THEY MUST'VE RUPTURED A GAS MAIN!
GET BACK... THAT FIREBALL'S ENGULFING EVERYTHING!
SHOOOMM!
I WONDER... COULD EVEN VENOM HAVE SURVIVED THAT INFERNO?
WAIT!! THROUGH THE SMOKE... I CAN SEE HIM!! BROCK!! HEY!
OUR WORK HERE'S DONE, HERO! WHO KNOWS WHEN NEXT WE'LL MEET?
HE--HE'S GONE INTO CAMOFLAGE MODE. I'LL NEVER FIND HIM BEFORE THIS PLACE BLOWS! LET'S GO!
DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME TWICE!
KA-BLAMM!


SHORTLY.
NO GOOD! THE KEY-SLOT WAS DESTROYED BY THE FIRE! WE'RE STUCK!
AND WITH OUR ARMOR DOWN, THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN BLAST THROUGH IT!
IT'S FIVE TONS OF TITANIUM STEEL!
STEP ASIDE.
SKRUNTCHH!
YOU SHOULD SEE ME WHEN I LOCK MY KEYS IN THE CAR!
EXCELLENT! THERE'S NOTHING TO STOP US NOW!!
OR... MAYBE NOT.
I'D FORGOTTEN...
THE CORRIDOR IS STRUNG WITH AUTOMATED LASER CANNONS MEANT TO DETER DESERTERS.
CONSIDER ME SUITABLY DETERRED.
NOT WHILE MY ARMOR'S STILL WORKING, TROOPS!
I'LL ZIP THROUGH THE GAUNTLET... SWITCH OFF THE SYSTEM!!
T-MINUS 5 MINUTES...
TAKE CARE.

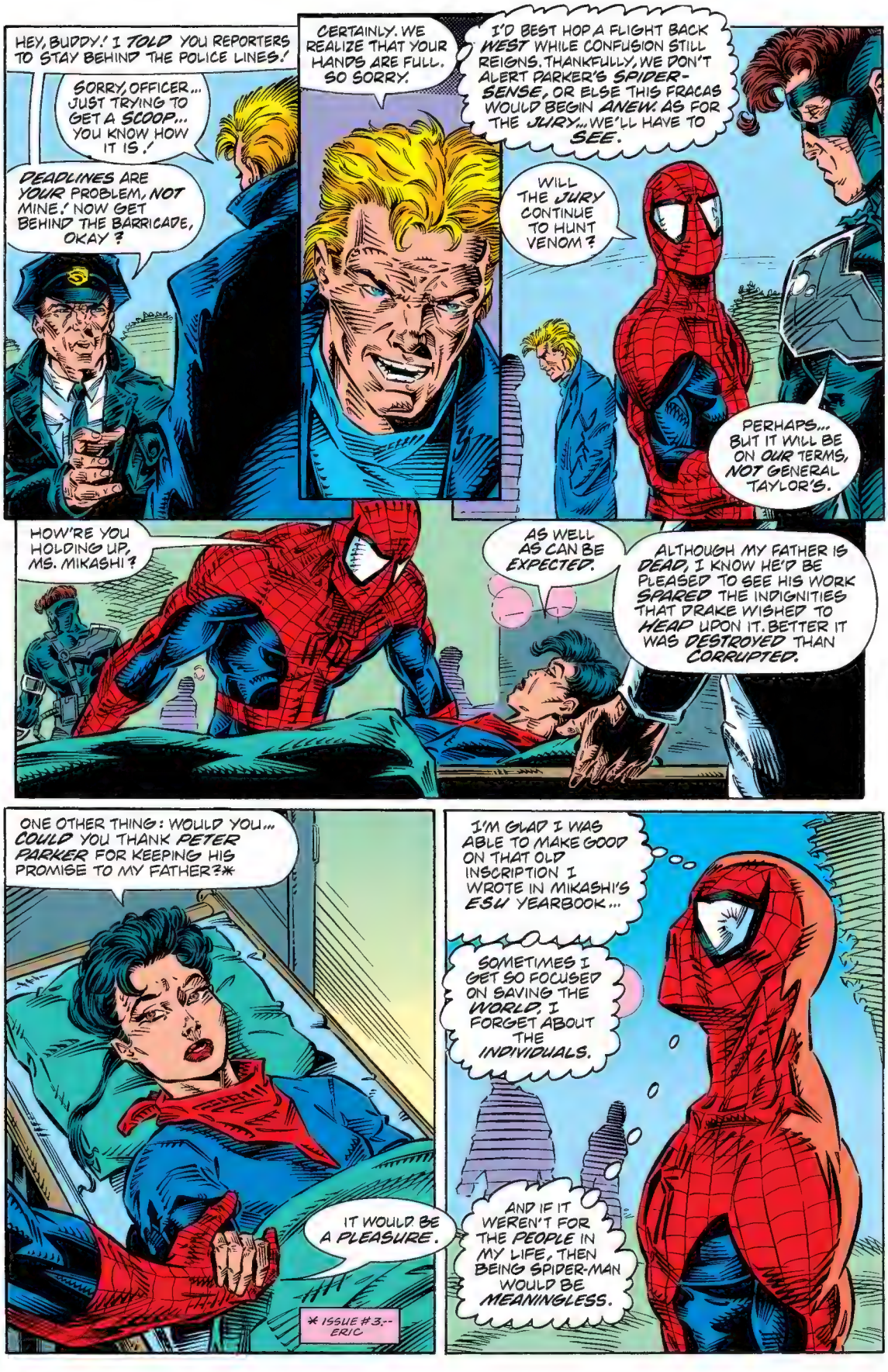

I DON'T HAVE TO...I'M THAT GOOD...
T-ZARQ
YWEEEEEEE
T-LEEQ!
APPARENTLY NOT.
T-MINUS 4 MINUTES...
YOU OKAY, HOTSHOT?
I DUNNO...NOT BLEEDING... LASERS CAUTERIZED... WOUNDS.
BUT ARMOR'S GONE...DEAD... TOO HEAVY... CAN'T MOVE...!
THWIPP!
THWAPP!
THEN WE'LL MOVE YOU!
CLOCK'S TICKING, SPIDEY.
MAYBE A HUMAN FORM'S TOO BIG TO MAKE IT THROUGH THE LASER-GRID...
...BUT I'LL BET MY WEB-SHOOTING MARKSMANSHIP CAN BEAT THESE GIZMOS!
OWCH!! CAREFUL!! I'M NOT SURE THAT LEG'S STILL ATTACHED!
BE CAREFUL, SPIDEY...TAKE YOUR TIME... GET A CLEAR SHOT...
...THIS ONE'S FOR ALL THE MARBLES!
THWIPP!
P-ZOWW!
RATS!

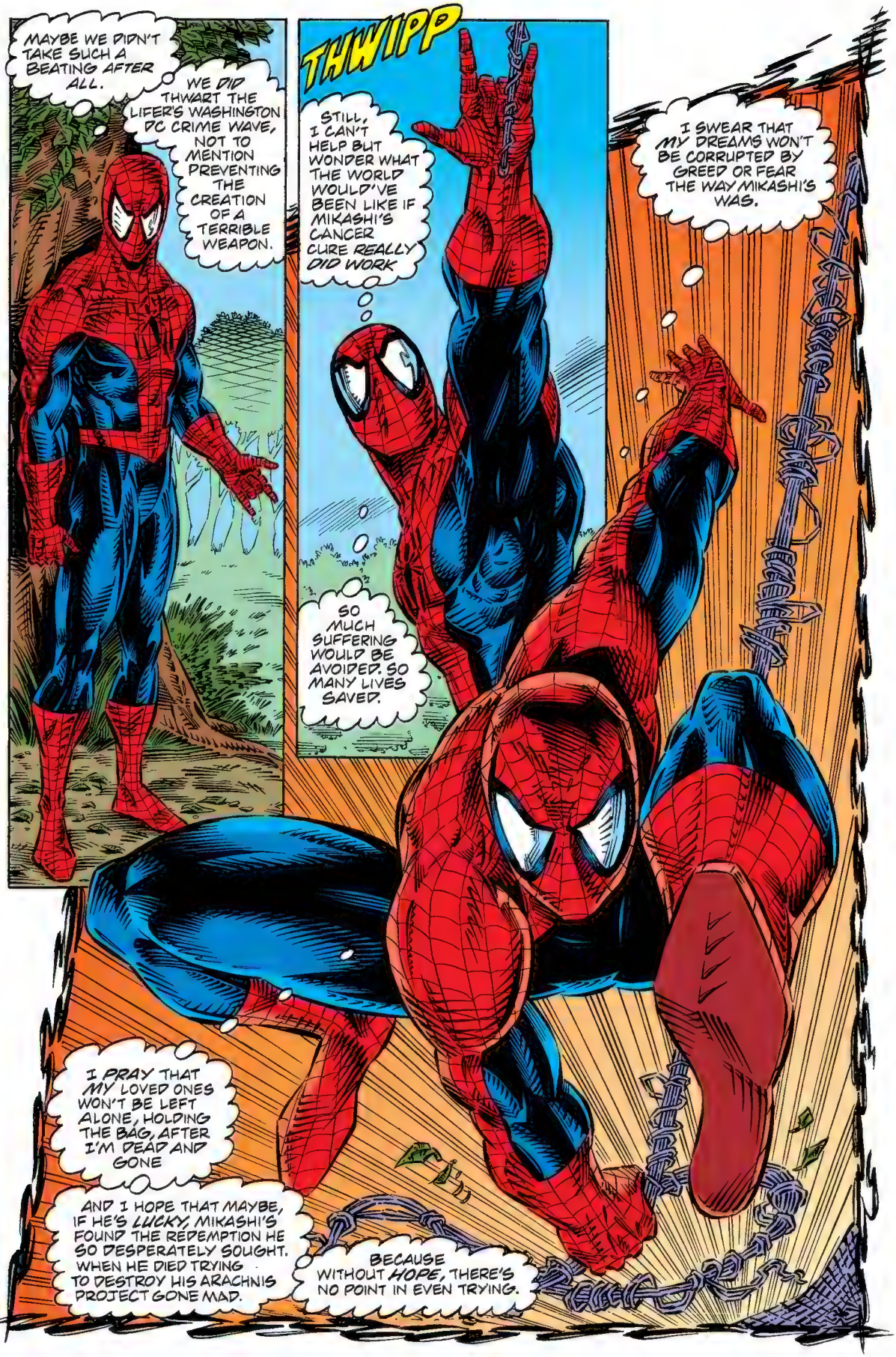
T-MINUS 2 MINUTES...
LET ME TRY! FOR SOME REASON, I DON'T SHOW UP ON SECURITY SYSTEMS. THAT'S WHY I WAS SUCH A GREAT SNEAK-THIEF!
WELL, IT'S A LONG SHOT... BUT WE DON'T HAVE TOO MANY OTHER CHOICES.
I HOPE THESE SYSTEMS AREN'T BASED ON ULTRA-VIOLET LIGHT, AS IT'S THE ONLY PART OF THE SPECTRUM I CAN'T BEND AROUND ME TO "APPEAR" INVISIBLE!
I STILL DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE MY POWER COMES FROM... OR HOW IT WORKS. BUT THAT'S A QUESTION FOR ANOTHER DAY!
THIS IS IT... YOUR BIGGEST TEST YET... DON'T BLOW IT...
...OR YOU BLOW UP!
I DID IT!!
AND ALL YOU MACHO STUD-PUPPIES REMEMBER... IT WAS A GIRL WHO SAVED YOUR FANNIES!
K-KLIK!
T-MINUS 1 MINUTE...
ALWAYS APPROPIATE COMMENTARY, SNEAKS!
LET'S GET THIS BRIGADE OF WALKING WOUNDED HIGH-STEPPING!
SOME BEDSIDE MANNER.
LET'S HAVE THAT KEY-CARD!
COMING RIGHT UP!
BLIP!
SHHHHUNK!
GOING UP!


SHHHHUNK...KLIK!
CLOSE THE DOOR BEHIND YOU, SENTRY!! WHAT, YOU LIVE IN A BARN?!
ACTUALLY, ONCE THIS PLACE BLOWS UP, THE JURY'S HOMELESS!
30 SECONDS...
IS THAT EVERYONE? SOMEONE RUN A HEAD COUNT!
ALL PRESENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR, WEBS!
10 SECONDS...
9...8...7...6...5...4...3...2...1...!
THOOOOOOMMM!
NOW IT'S TIME TO SEE HOW WELL DRAKE BUILT HIS BUNKER! WILL IT CONTAIN THE BLAST? WILL WASHINGTON DC BECOME A RADIOACTIVE SMEAR?
WILL...WILL I EVER SEE MY LOVED ONES AGAIN?!?
OR HAVE WE SOMEHOW... MIRACULOUSLY BEATEN THE ODDS?!?
HOLD ON TO YOUR HATS!!
IT HELD!! THE BLAST WAS CONTAINED!!
WE'RE... WE'RE GONNA BE OKAY!!
THAT'S GOTTA BE A TEN ON THE RICHTER SCALE!!

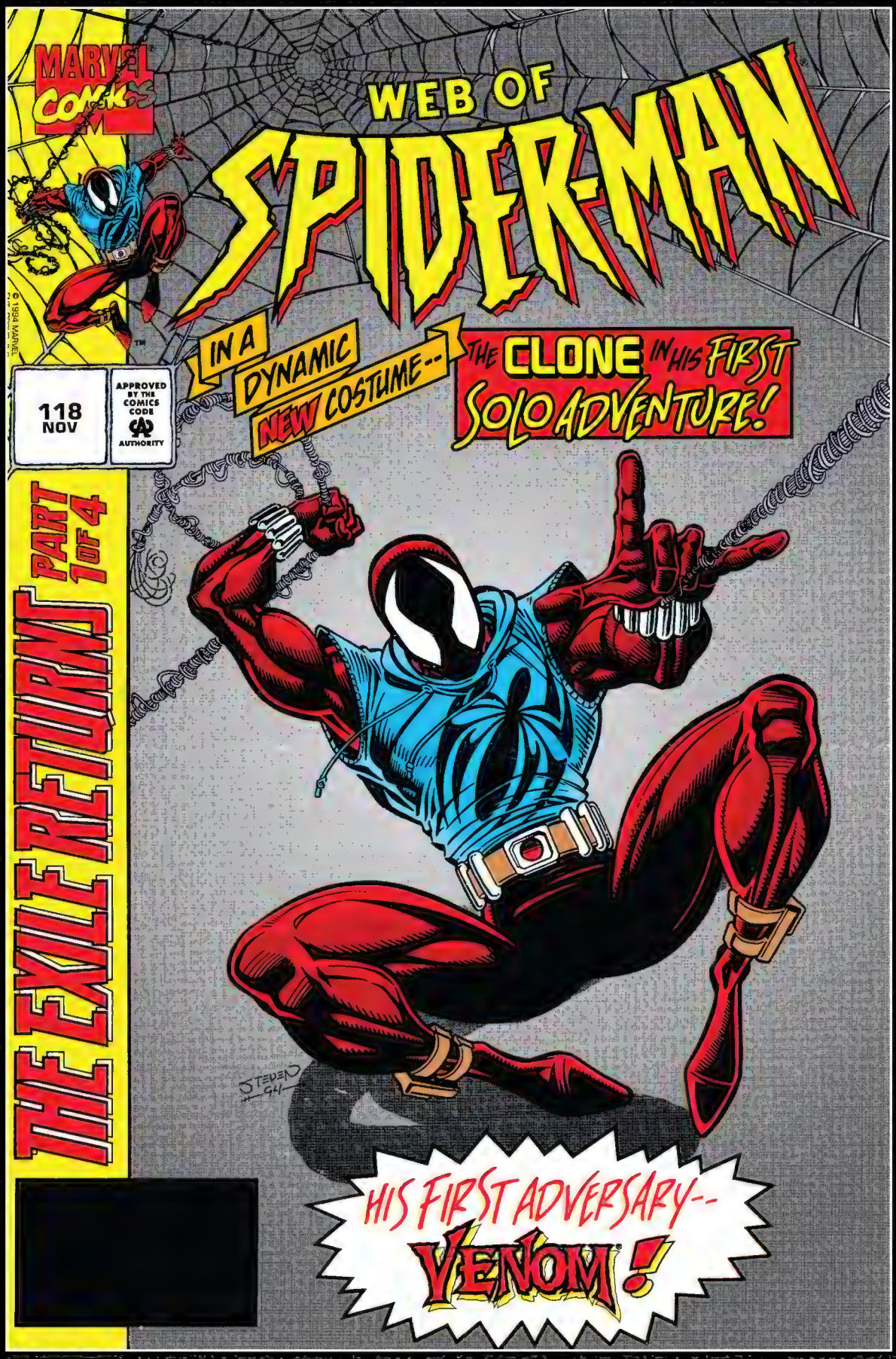

MEANWHILE, 7,000 FEET OVERHEAD.
AUTO-PILOT'S RUNNING CRISP AND CLEAN.
SCANNERS NO LONGER REGISTER THE BUNKER... IT'S GONE, AND EVERYTHING IN IT.
STARTING OVER IS ALWAYS SUCH AN ADVENTURE, WOULDN'T YOU SAY, GENERAL?
I LEFT MY SON TO DIE, ROLAND. THERE'S NO STARTING OVER FOR ME.
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? HE'S JUST A KID! YOU CAN MAKE ANOTHER ONE JUST LIKE HIM!
GOOD LORD! THAT'S A PARAMOUR X-38 GOVERNMENT FIGHTER! THE LOUSY FEDS ARE ON TO US, TAYLOR!
KZZZZT! ATTENTION, UNMARKED AIRCRAFT! YOU ARE VIOLATING FEDERAL AIRSPACE! LAND IMMEDIATELY OR WE'LL SHOOT YOU DOWN!
KZZZZT! THIS IS YOUR ONLY WARNING! YOU'VE BEEN CLEARED TO LAND AT THE FOLLOWING COORDINATES...
WE'VE GOTTA THINK FAST, TAYLOR... GET OUR STORIES STRAIGHT!
WE JUST DETONATED A NUCLEAR WARHEAD WITHIN CITY LIMITS...
...AND WE'VE 3,000 POUNDS OF STOLEN ARTIFACTS IN STEERAGE!
I HOPE YOU LOOK GOOD IN ORANGE PRISON-JUMPSUITS, GENERAL!!
IT'S NOTHING TO FEAR, ROLAND... JUST OUR PASTS CATCHING UP WITH US.
SIT TIGHT AND TAKE IT LIKE A MAN.

WHADDAYA KNOW ? THE FEDS ROUNDED UP TREECE AND THE GENERAL AFTER ALL ! GOOD ! THEY'VE GOT PLENTY TO ANSWER FOR !
IT SHOULD BE EASY TO SCORE AN INDICTMENT AGAINST THEM FOR THIS MESS. AT THE VERY LEAST THE E.P.A. CAN MAKE SOMETHING STICK !
THE LIFE FOUNDATION... WHAT A JOKE !
THEY'VE NO RESPECT FOR LIFE AT ALL... EXCEPT MAYBE THEIR OWN !
LUCKY THING SPIDEY ROUNDED YOU BOYS UP ! WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF QUESTIONS WE WANNA ASK YOU !
GO CHOKE ON A DONUT, FLATFOOT !
STILL... I'M BUMMED. MIKASHI'S DEAD. SPOILER GOT AWAY.
VENOM'S ESCAPED, YET AGAIN. WE LOST THE CURE FOR CANCER, AND DRAKE ALSO SEEMS TO HAVE MET HIS END, NOT TO MENTION THAT KID WHOSE MURDER OPENED UP THE CAN OF WORMS !
*SEE ARACHNIS #1.--ERIC
SO MANY DEAD. AND FOR WHAT ?
MONEY ? SCIENCE ?? FEAR ???
THANKS FOR THE HELP DOWN THERE, SPIDEY. I THINK WE'VE FINALLY GOTTEN THE OTHERS TO SEE THE LIGHT.
KINDA IRONIC THAT THE "COWARD" IS THE ONLY ONE WHO SURVIVED THIS ORDEAL INTACT, ISN'T IT ?
I NEVER THOUGHT OF YOU AS A COWARD.
DEEP DOWN I DON'T THINK YOUR FRIENDS DID EITHER.


HEY, BUDDY! I TOLD YOU REPORTERS TO STAY BEHIND THE POLICE LINES!
SORRY, OFFICER... JUST TRYING TO GET A SCOOP... YOU KNOW HOW IT IS!
DEADLINES ARE YOUR PROBLEM, NOT MINE! NOW GET BEHIND THE BARRICADE, OKAY?
CERTAINLY. WE REALIZE THAT YOUR HANDS ARE FULL. SO SORRY.
I'D BEST HOP A FLIGHT BACK WEST WHILE CONFUSION STILL REIGNS. THANKFULLY, WE DON'T ALERT PARKER'S SPIDER-SENSE, OR ELSE THIS FRACAS WOULD BEGIN ANEW. AS FOR THE JURY... WE'LL HAVE TO SEE.
WILL THE JURY CONTINUE TO HUNT VENOM?
PERHAPS... BUT IT WILL BE ON OUR TERMS, NOT GENERAL TAYLOR'S.
HOW'RE YOU HOLDING UP, MS. MIKASHI?
AS WELL AS CAN BE EXPECTED.
ALTHOUGH MY FATHER IS DEAD, I KNOW HE'D BE PLEASED TO SEE HIS WORK SPARED THE INDIGNITIES THAT DRAKE WISHED TO HEAD UPON IT. BETTER IT WAS DESTROYED THAN CORRUPTED.
ONE OTHER THING: WOULD YOU... COULD YOU THANK PETER PARKER FOR KEEPING HIS PROMISE TO MY FATHER?*
IT WOULD BE A PLEASURE.
* ISSUE #3.-- ERIC
I'M GLAD I WAS ABLE TO MAKE GOOD ON THAT OLD INSCRIPTION I WROTE IN MIKASHI'S ESU YEARBOOK...
SOMETIMES I GET SO FOCUSED ON SAVING THE WORLD, I FORGET ABOUT THE INDIVIDUALS.
AND IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE PEOPLE IN MY LIFE, THEN BEING SPIDER-MAN WOULD BE MEANINGLESS.

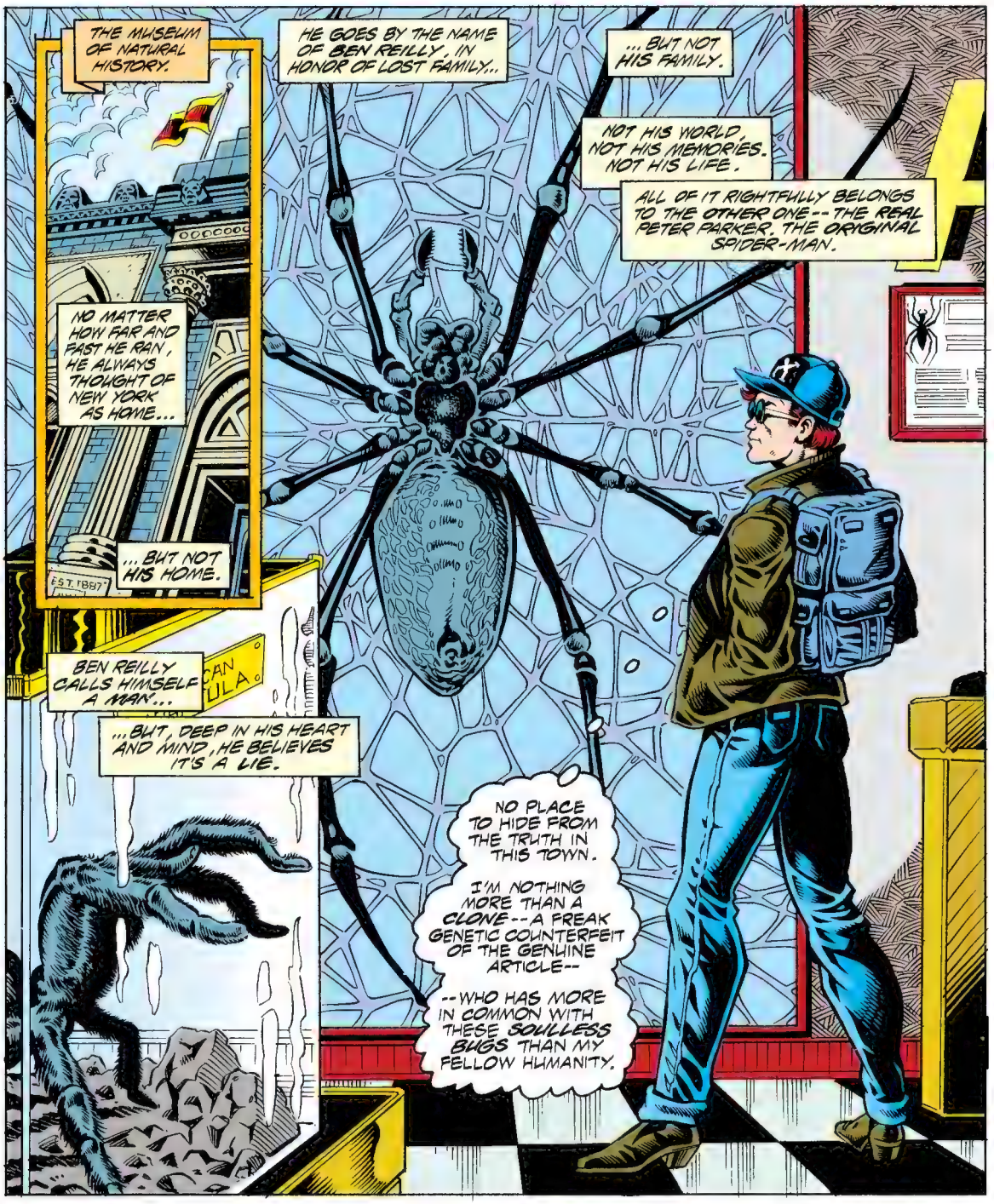

MAYBE WE DIDN'T TAKE SUCH A BEATING AFTER ALL.
WE DID THWART THE LIFER'S WASHINGTON DC CRIME WAVE, NOT TO MENTION PREVENTING THE CREATION OF A TERRIBLE WEAPON.
THWIPP
STILL, I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER WHAT THE WORLD WOULD'VE BEEN LIKE IF MIKASHI'S CANCER CURE *REALLY* DID WORK
SO MUCH SUFFERING WOULD BE AVOIDED. SO MANY LIVES SAVED.
I SWEAR THAT *MY* DREAMS WON'T BE CORRUPTED BY GREED OR FEAR THE WAY MIKASHI'S WAS.
I *PRAY* THAT *MY* LOVED ONES WON'T BE LEFT ALONE, HOLDING THE BAG, AFTER I'M DEAD AND GONE
AND I HOPE THAT MAYBE, IF HE'S *LUCKY*, MIKASHI'S FOUND THE REDEMPTION HE SO DESPERATELY SOUGHT. WHEN HE DIED TRYING TO DESTROY HIS ARACHNIS PROJECT GONE MAD.
BECAUSE WITHOUT *HOPE*, THERE'S NO POINT IN EVEN TRYING.

LATER THAT NIGHT.
HEROES, VILLAINS, AND VIGILANTES ARE LONG SINCE GONE, LEAVING BEHIND A LEGACY OF DESTRUCTION AND DEATH.
BUT SOMEHOW, MIRACULOUSLY, DEATH HAS BEEN DENIED TONIGHT.
I... I LIVE!!
MY EXO-SKELETON PERFORMED PERFECTLY, PROTECTING ME FROM THE BLAST AND ABSORBING BOTH THE AMBIENT RADIATION AND MY LIFE-THREATENING CANCERS.
AND NOW I MAY SHED THE BRITTLE REMAINS, AS THEY'VE SERVED THEIR PURPOSE.
I FEEL YOUNGER... REVITALIZED!
ALTHOUGH I'VE HELD MISTRESS DEATH AT BAY, I'VE COME UP SHORT IN MY ONGOING FEUD WITH SPIDER-MAN. I'VE LOST ARACHNIS... AND THE HARD EARNED TREASURE FROM THE CRIME-WAVE...
...NOT TO MENTION THE HUMILIATING THRASHING I TOOK AT THE HANDS OF VENOM!
WORST OF ALL, I'VE VIRTUALLY DEPLETED MY NEW-FOUND HEALING-ABILITY. I'M BACK TO WHERE WE STARTED... COUGH!! KAFF!!
WITH THE DATA DESTROYED NEITHER I, NOR ANYONE ELSE, WILL EVER USE MIKASHI'S DISCOVERIES TO CURE CANCER AGAIN.
SPIDER-MAN AND THE JURY WILL PAY... OH, HOW THEY WILL SUFFER. I'LL MAKE SURE OF THAT!
THE END


MARVEL COMICS
WEB OF
SPIDER-MAN
IN A DYNAMIC NEW COSTUME--
THE CLONE IN HIS FIRST SOLO ADVENTURE!
118
NOV
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THE EXILE RETURNS PART 1 OF 4
HIS FIRST ADVERSARY--
VENOM!

BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT **PETER PARKER** GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!

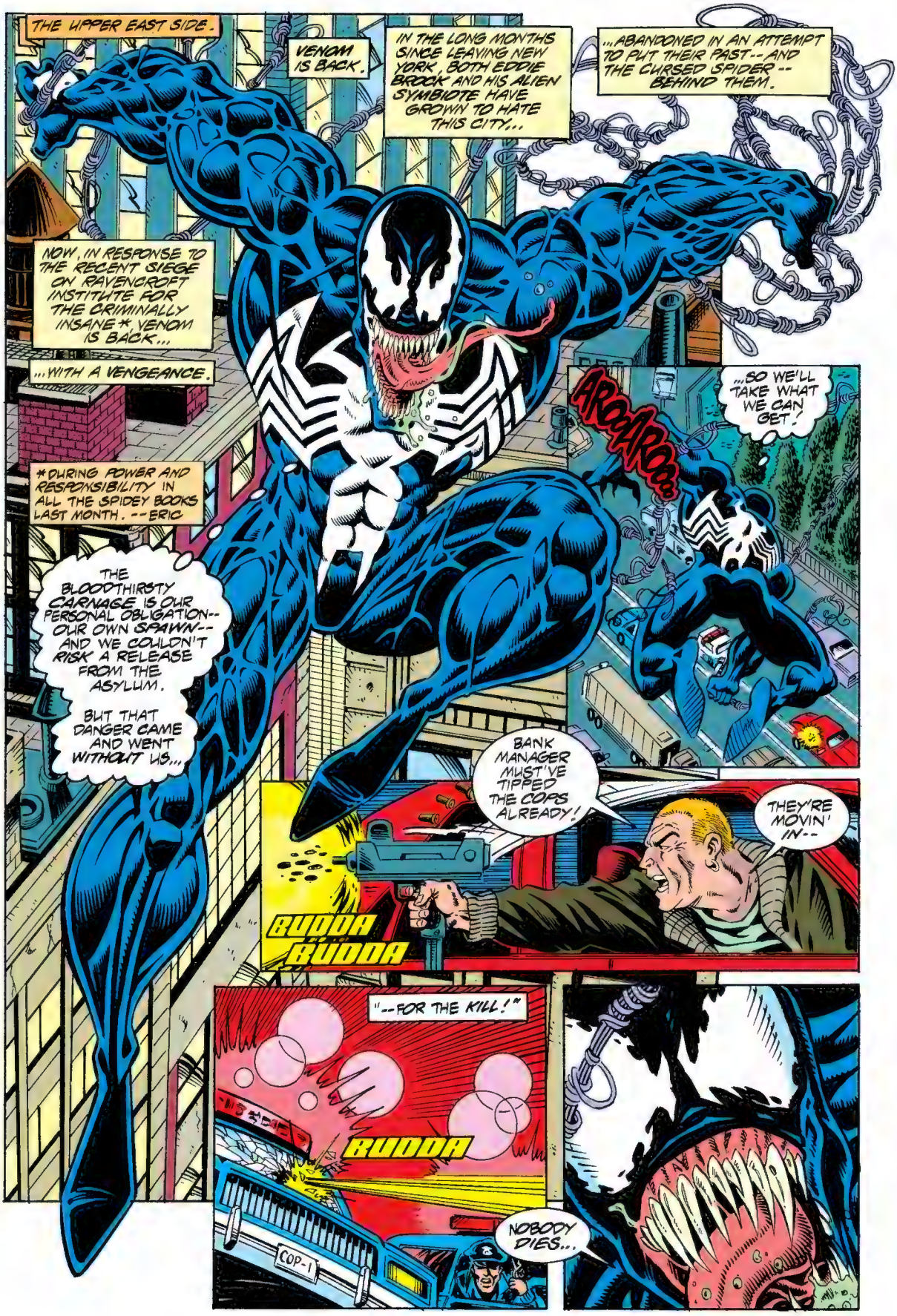
Stan Lee PRESENTS: **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN**™

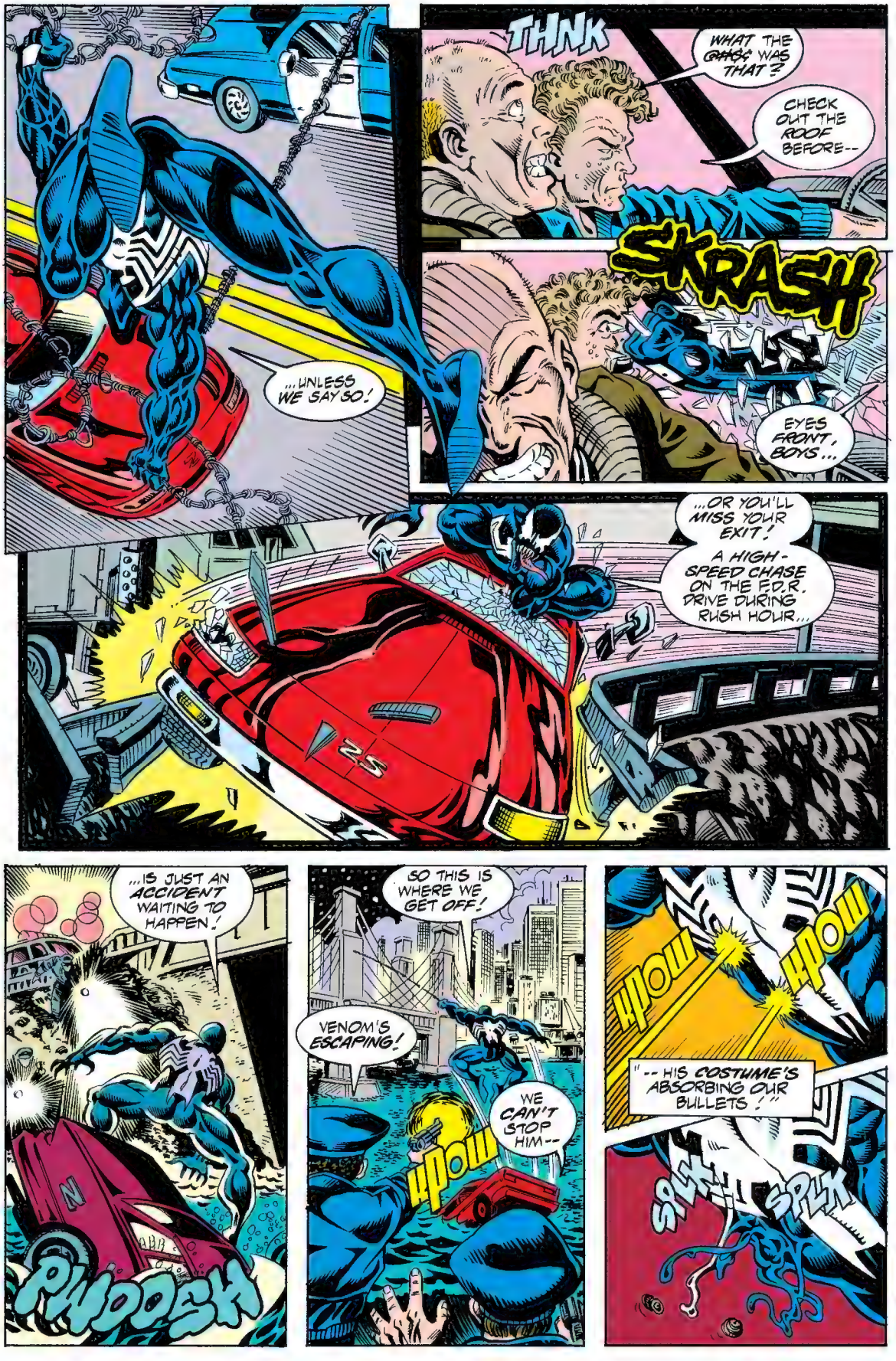

THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.
HE GOES BY THE NAME OF BEN REILLY, IN HONOR OF LOST FAMILY...
...BUT NOT HIS FAMILY.
NOT HIS WORLD, NOT HIS MEMORIES. NOT HIS LIFE.
ALL OF IT RIGHTFULLY BELONGS TO THE OTHER ONE--THE REAL PETER PARKER, THE ORIGINAL SPIDER-MAN.
NO MATTER HOW FAR AND FAST HE RAN, HE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF NEW YORK AS HOME...
...BUT NOT HIS HOME.
BEN REILLY CALLS HIMSELF A MAN...
...BUT, DEEP IN HIS HEART AND MIND, HE BELIEVES IT'S A LIE.
NO PLACE TO HIDE FROM THE TRUTH IN THIS TOWN.
I'M NOTHING MORE THAN A CLONE--A FREAK GENETIC COUNTERFEIT OF THE GENUINE ARTICLE--
--WHO HAS MORE IN COMMON WITH THESE SOULLESS BUGS THAN MY FELLOW HUMANITY.

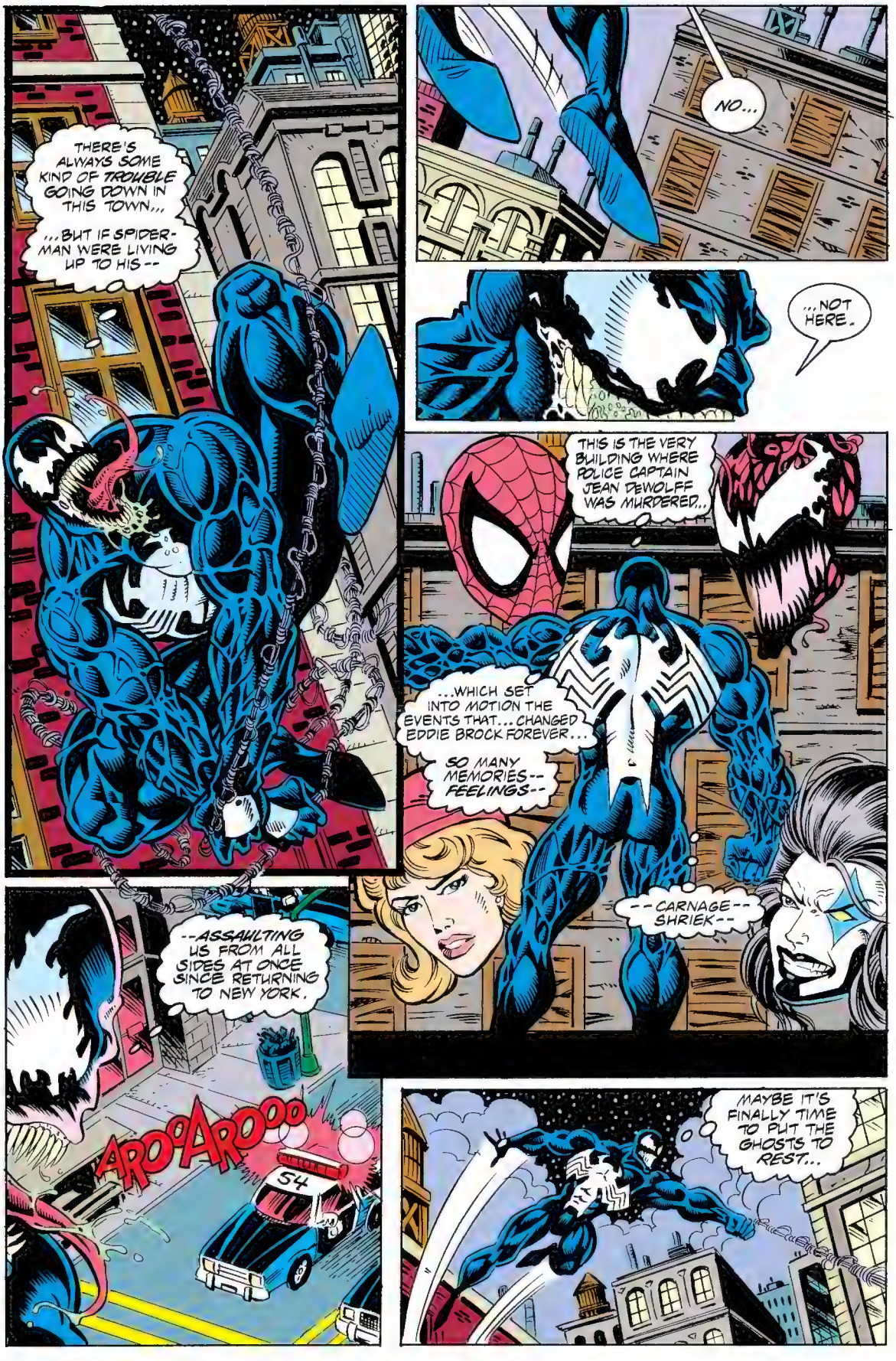
CLOSING TIME, SON...
... DOORS OPEN AGAIN AT NINE IN THE MORNING.
I'LL BE LONG GONE BY THEN, FRIEND.
ONLY STOPPED AT THE MUSEUM ON AN IMPULSE...
... BECAUSE THIS IS WHAT NEW YORK IS ALL ABOUT FOR ME -- THE NEVER-ENDING PLACES TO LEARN AND EXPLORE, THE RANGE OF PEOPLE TO SHARE IT WITH.
NOW IT'S JUST ANOTHER PAINFUL REMINDER OF A LIFE I NEVER HAD.
HAD TO COME SEE MAY AS SOON AS I HEARD ABOUT HER CONDITION, BUT THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT I WAS AFRAID OF --
-- I MISS EVERYTHING ABOUT THIS CITY.
YET I'LL HAVE TO GO INTO ACTION EVENTUALLY IF I STICK AROUND TOO LONG...
... AND I VOWED I'D NEVER DO THAT. THAT'S PETER'S LIFE -- NOT MINE.

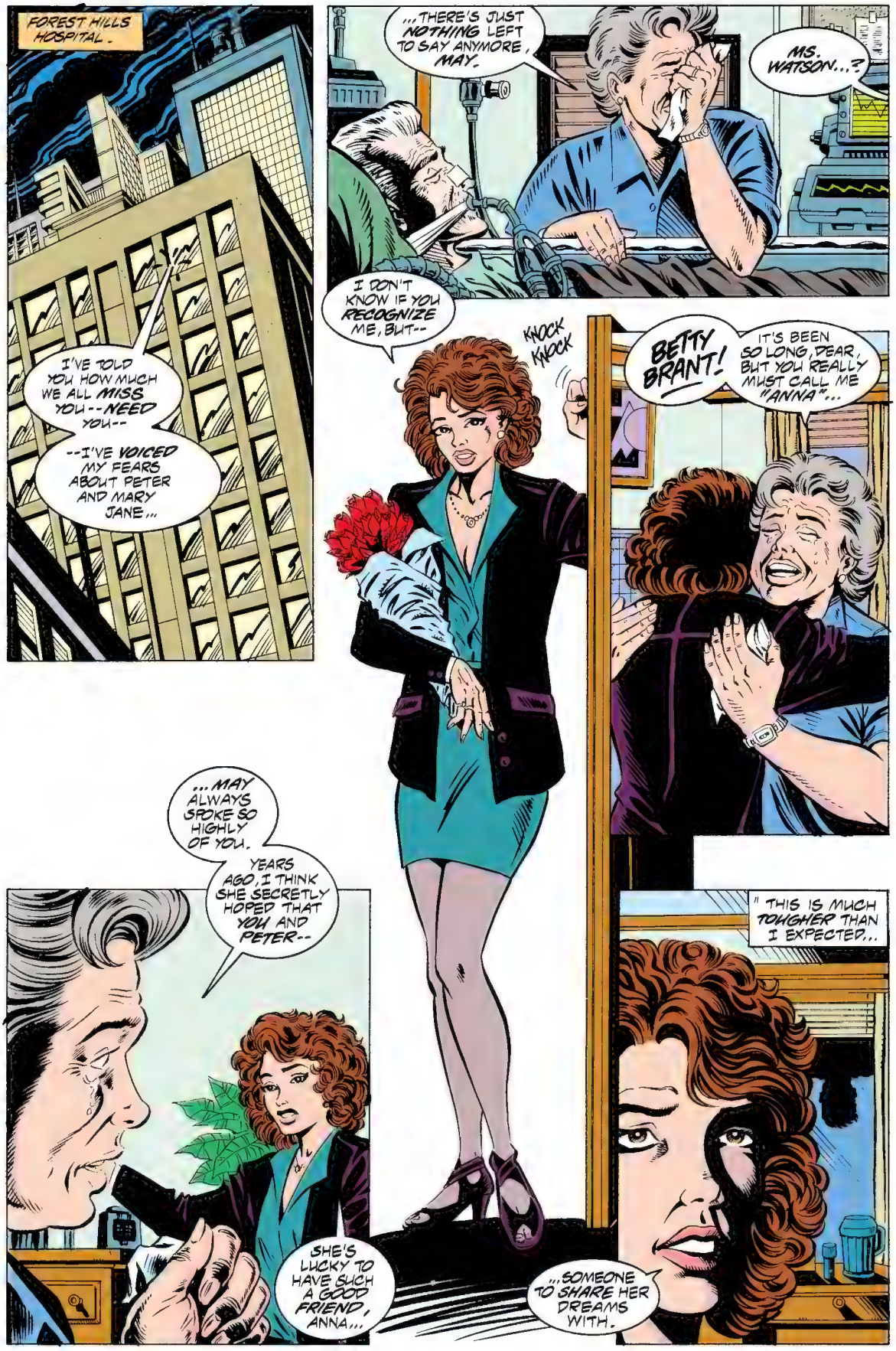
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
SPIDER WORLD
EVERYWHERE I TURN, THERE'S SOME KIND OF SIGN OR--
HANG ON...
LADIES
-- THOSE TWO GOONS TRIGGERED MY SPIDER-SENSE!
BUT I REALLY CAN'T AFFORD TO GET INVOLVED...
"...UNLESS I ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO."
WE WON'T ASK TWICE, JOEY.
NEITHER WILL WE, SUCKER...
...DROP THE HARDWARE NOW!
YOU NEVER COULD RESIST AN EASY MARK, MALLOY...
...AND WE'VE BEEN STAKIN' OUT YOUR LITTLE PROTECTION RACKET FOR THE LAST WEEK.
NO ONE WAS INJURED THIS TIME...

...BUT WHAT WOULD I HAVE DONE IF SOMEONE HAD BEEN HURT OR KILLED?
CAN I AVOID MY FATE FOREVER?
CAN I REALLY DENY THE TRUTH THAT DEFINES ME--THAT SHAPED ME INTO THE MAN I AM TODAY--
SPIDER WORLD
--WITH GREAT POWER MUST COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY...
THE EXILE RETURNS
PART ONE OF FOUR
MEMORIES
TERRY KAVANAGH
Writer
STEVEN BUTLER
Penciler
RANDY EMBERLIN
Inker
STEVE DUTRO
letterer
KEVIN TINSLEY
colorist
ERIC FEIN
editor
DANNY FINGEROTH
Group editor
TOM DEFALCO
editor in chief


THE UPPER EAST SIDE.
VENOM IS BACK.
IN THE LONG MONTHS SINCE LEAVING NEW YORK, BOTH EDDIE BROCK AND HIS ALIEN SYMBIOTE HAVE GROWN TO HATE THIS CITY...
...ABANDONED IN AN ATTEMPT TO PUT THEIR PAST -- AND THE CURSED SPIDER -- BEHIND THEM.
NOW, IN RESPONSE TO THE RECENT SIEGE ON RAVENCROFT INSTITUTE FOR THE CRIMINALLY INSANE*, VENOM IS BACK...
...WITH A VENGEANCE.
*DURING POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY IN ALL THE SPIDEY BOOKS LAST MONTH. --ERIC
THE BLOODTHIRSTY CARNAGE IS OUR PERSONAL OBLIGATION-- OUR OWN SPAWN-- AND WE COULDN'T RISK A RELEASE FROM THE ASYLUM.
BUT THAT DANGER CAME AND WENT WITHOUT US...
AROARO
...SO WE'LL TAKE WHAT WE CAN GET!
BANK MANAGER MUST'VE TIPPED THE COPS ALREADY!
THEY'RE MOVIN' IN--
BUDDA
BUDDA
"--FOR THE KILL!"
BUDDA
COP-1
NOBODY DIES...

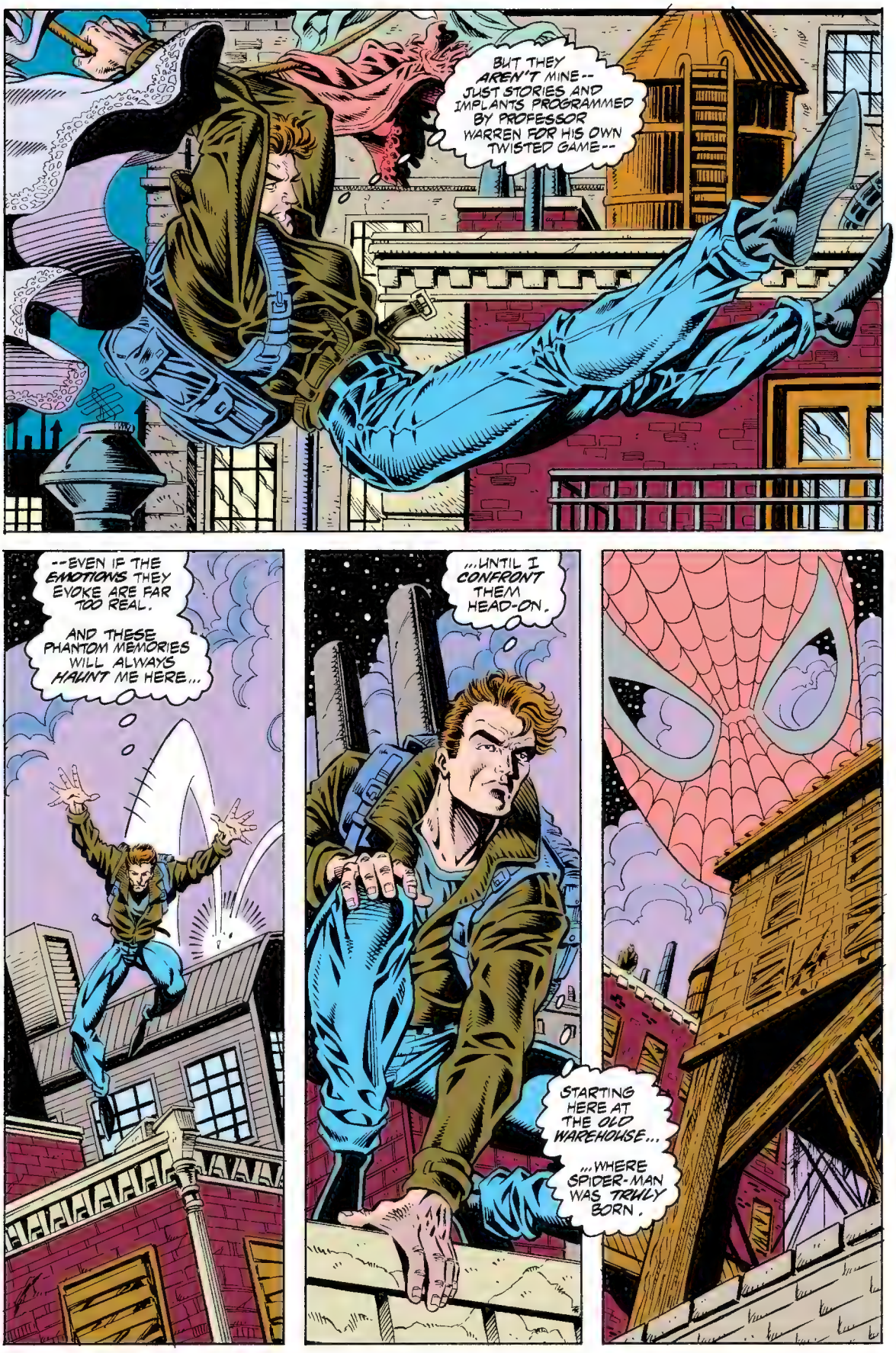

...UNLESS WE SAY SO!
THNK
WHAT THE GRASS WAS THAT?
CHECK OUT THE ROOF BEFORE--
SKRASH
EYES FRONT, BOYS...
...OR YOU'LL MISS YOUR EXIT!
A HIGH-SPEED CHASE ON THE F.D.R. DRIVE DURING RUSH HOUR...
...IS JUST AN ACCIDENT WAITING TO HAPPEN!
PWOOSH
SO THIS IS WHERE WE GET OFF!
VENOM'S ESCAPING!
WE CAN'T STOP HIM--
KPOW
KPOW
KPOW
"--HIS COSTUME'S ABSORBING OUR BULLETS!"
SPLK
SPLK

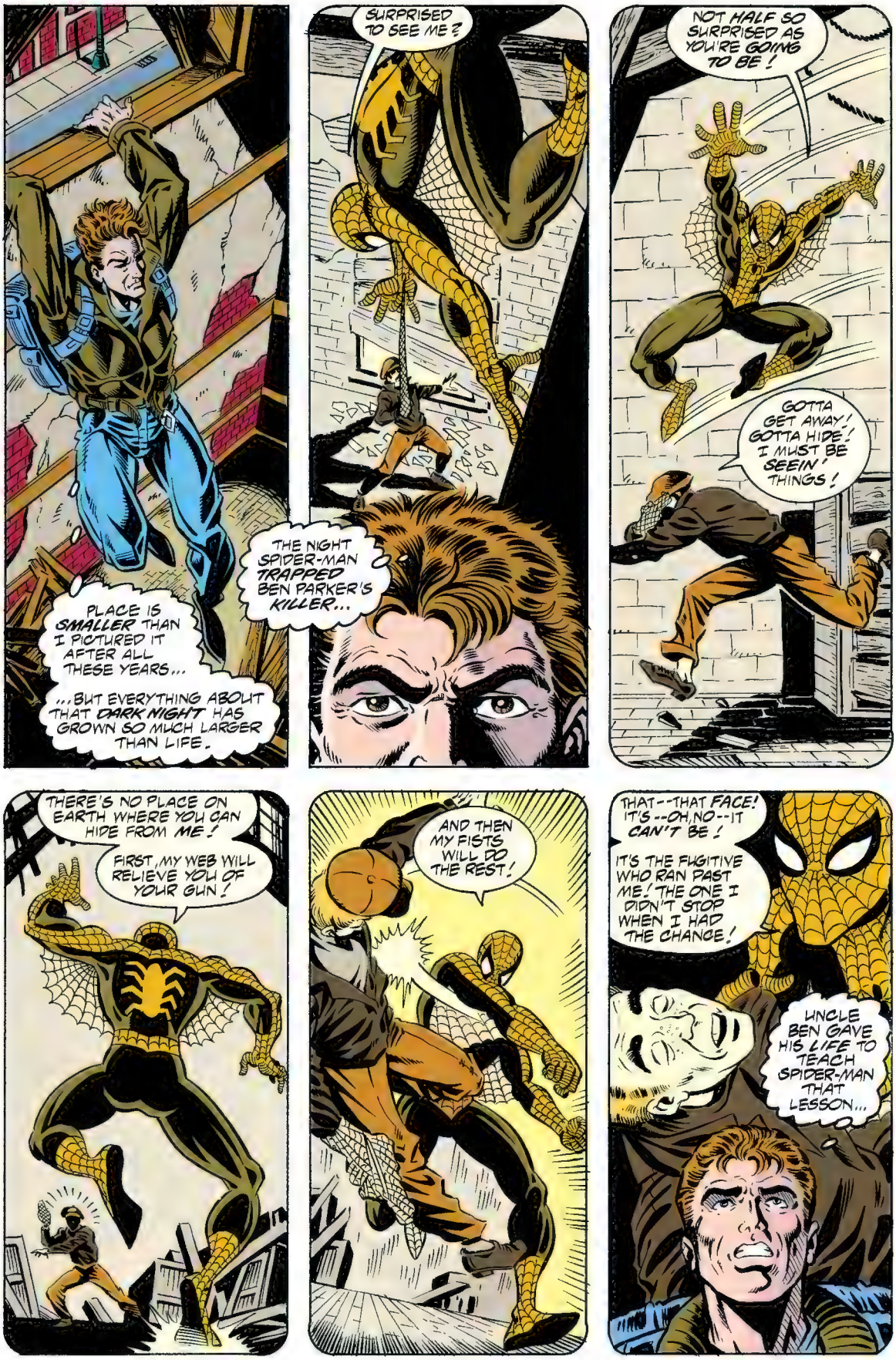

THERE'S ALWAYS SOME KIND OF TROUBLE GOING DOWN IN THIS TOWN...
...BUT IF SPIDER-MAN WERE LIVING UP TO HIS --
NO...
...NOT HERE.
THIS IS THE VERY BUILDING WHERE POLICE CAPTAIN JEAN DEWOLFF WAS MURDERED...
...WHICH SET INTO MOTION THE EVENTS THAT... CHANGED EDDIE BROCK FOREVER...
SO MANY MEMORIES-- FEELINGS--
--CARNAGE-- SHRIEK--
--ASSAULTING US FROM ALL SIDES AT ONCE SINCE RETURNING TO NEW YORK.
AROOAROOO
54
MAYBE IT'S FINALLY TIME TO PUT THE GHOSTS TO REST...

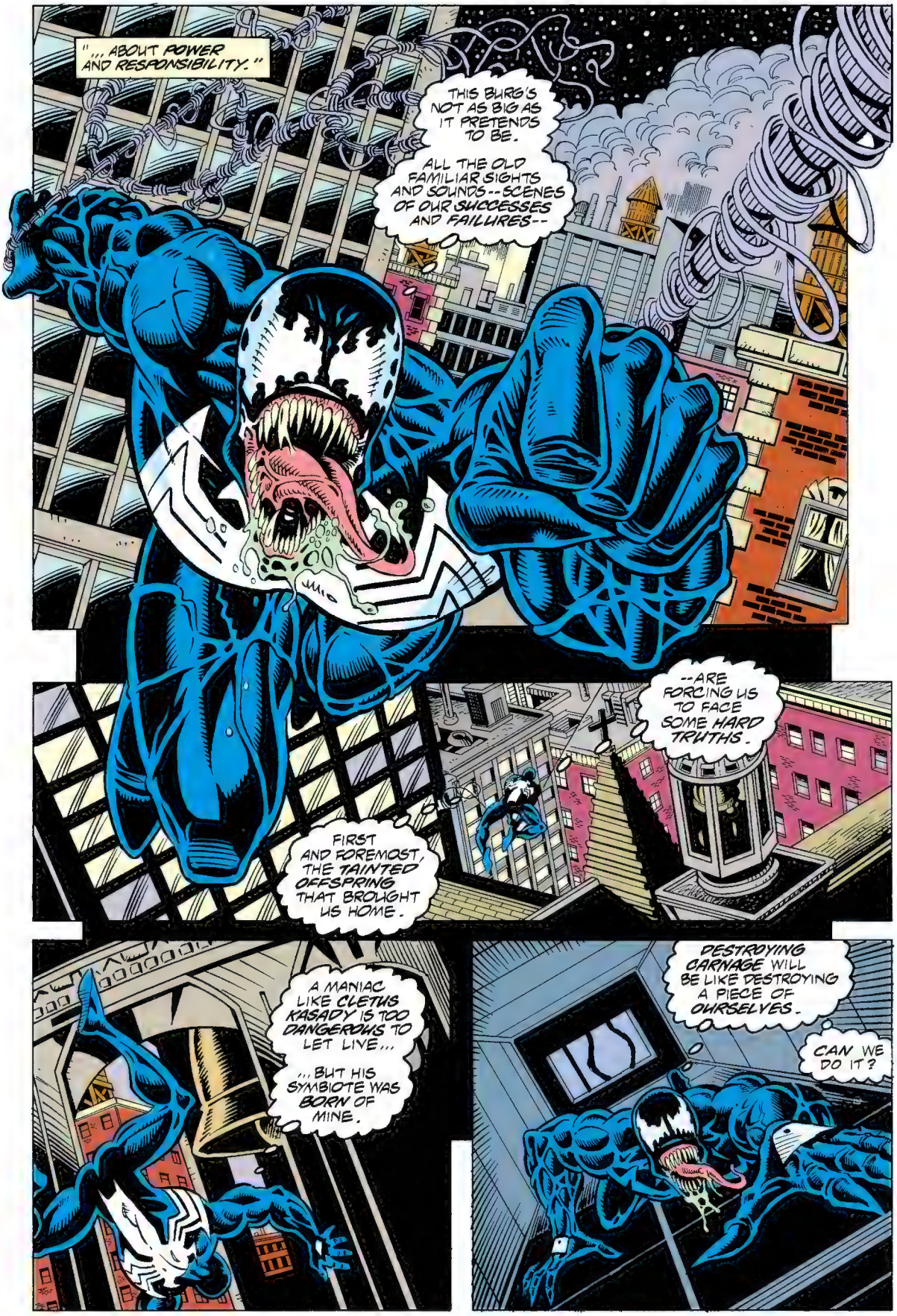

FOREST HILLS HOSPITAL.
I'VE TOLD YOU HOW MUCH WE ALL MISS YOU--NEED YOU--
--I'VE VOICED MY FEARS ABOUT PETER AND MARY JANE...
...THERE'S JUST NOTHING LEFT TO SAY ANYMORE, MAY.
MS. WATSON...?
I DON'T KNOW IF YOU RECOGNIZE ME, BUT--
KNOCK KNOCK
BETTY BRANT!
IT'S BEEN SO LONG, DEAR, BUT YOU REALLY MUST CALL ME "ANNA"...
...MAY ALWAYS SPOKE SO HIGHLY OF YOU.
YEARS AGO, I THINK SHE SECRETLY HOPED THAT YOU AND PETER--
SHE'S LUCKY TO HAVE SUCH A GOOD FRIEND, ANNA...
"THIS IS MUCH TOUGHER THAN I EXPECTED...
...SOMEONE TO SHARE HER DREAMS WITH.

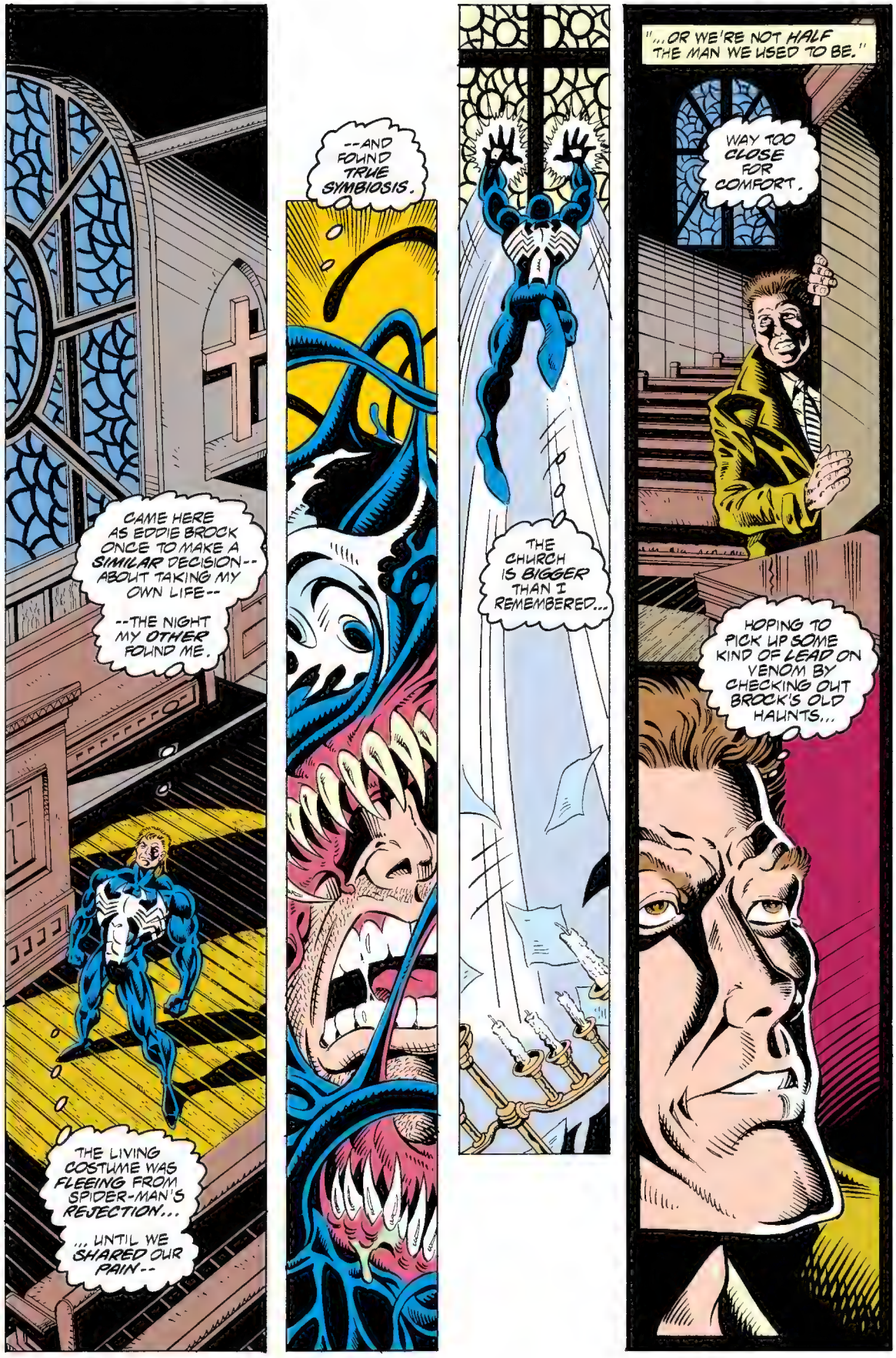
I SHOULD BE OUT OF THE CITY BY NOW.
BUT I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO LEAVE MAY BEHIND JUST YET...
...AND EVERY HOUR I SPEND IN NEW YORK--
WAIT A MINUTE...
...IS THAT BETTY BRANT?!
DOESN'T LOOK ANYTHING LIKE THE WIDE-EYED INNOCENT I LIKE TO REMEMBER...
"...SO MUCH HAS CHANGED."
WISH I'D SPENT MORE TIME WITH THE PARKERS IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS...
...BUT IT TOOK NICK KATZENBERG'S SUDDEN DEATH AND LANCE BANNON'S SENSELESS MURDER TO MAKE ME REALIZE HOW FRAGILE LIFE CAN BE--
HANG ON...
...SHADOWS JUST SHIFTED ACROSS THAT WALL--
--FROM THE EMPTY WINDOW?!
"AS LONG AS I STAY...
...I CAN'T HELP THINKING ABOUT WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

BUT I WON'T DISHONOR EVERYTHING UNCLE BEN TAUGHT ME ABOUT DUTY AND OBLIGATION...
...BY DESERTING THE LOVING WOMAN WHO SACRIFICED ALL TO RAISE ME--
RAISE HIM. TAUGHT HIM.
GOT USED TO INDULGING THESE MEMORIES AS IF THEY WERE MY OWN...
...AS LONG AS I'VE BEEN AWAY FROM NEW YORK--AND THE TRUE PETER PARKER--WHERE NO ONE ELSE WAS THREATENED BY THEM.


BUT THEY AREN'T MINE-- JUST STORIES AND IMPLANTS PROGRAMMED BY PROFESSOR WARREN FOR HIS OWN TWISTED GAME--
--EVEN IF THE EMOTIONS THEY EVOKE ARE FAR TOO REAL.
AND THESE PHANTOM MEMORIES WILL ALWAYS HAUNT ME HERE...
...UNTIL I CONFRONT THEM HEAD-ON.
STARTING HERE AT THE OLD WAREHOUSE...
...WHERE SPIDER-MAN WAS TRULY BORN.

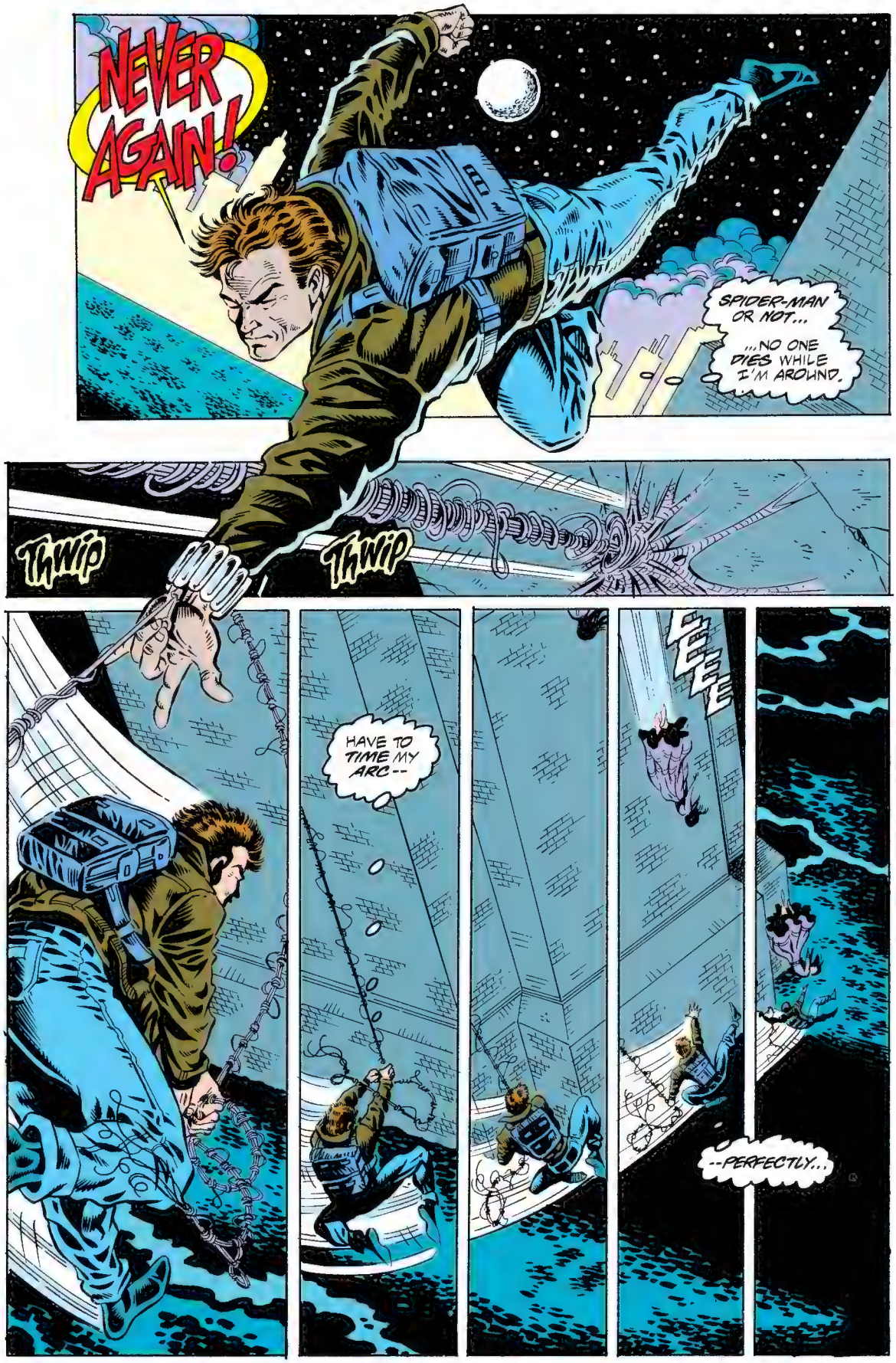

PLACE IS SMALLER THAN I PICTURED IT AFTER ALL THESE YEARS...
...BUT EVERYTHING ABOUT THAT DARK NIGHT HAS GROWN SO MUCH LARGER THAN LIFE.
THE NIGHT SPIDER-MAN TRAPPED BEN PARKER'S KILLER...
SURPRISED TO SEE ME?
NOT HALF SO SURPRISED AS YOU'RE GOING TO BE!
GOTTA GET AWAY! GOTTA HIDE! I MUST BE SEEIN' THINGS!
THERE'S NO PLACE ON EARTH WHERE YOU CAN HIDE FROM ME!
FIRST, MY WEB WILL RELIEVE YOU OF YOUR GUN!
AND THEN MY FISTS WILL DO THE REST!
THAT--THAT FACE! IT'S--OH, NO--IT CAN'T BE!
IT'S THE FUGITIVE WHO RAN PAST ME! THE ONE I DIDN'T STOP WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE!
UNCLE BEN GAVE HIS LIFE TO TEACH SPIDER-MAN THAT LESSON...

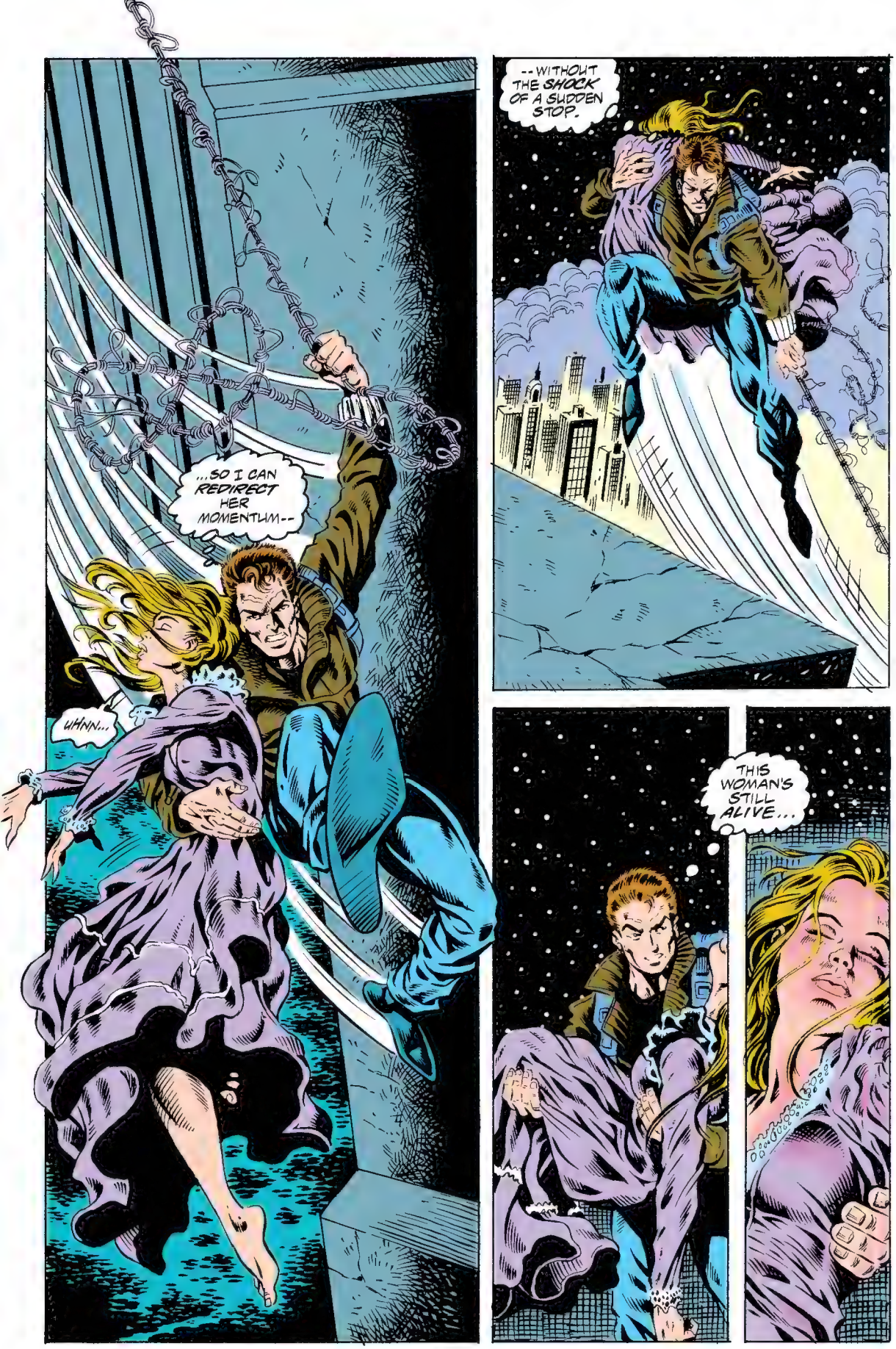

"... ABOUT POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY."
THIS BURG'S NOT AS BIG AS IT PRETENDS TO BE.
ALL THE OLD FAMILIAR SIGHTS AND SOUNDS--SCENES OF OUR SUCCESSES AND FAILURES--
--ARE FORCING US TO FACE SOME HARD TRUTHS.
FIRST AND FOREMOST, THE TAINTED OFFSPRING THAT BROUGHT US HOME.
A MANIAC LIKE CLETUS KASADY IS TOO DANGEROUS TO LET LIVE...
...BUT HIS SYMBIOTE WAS BORN OF MINE.
DESTROYING CARNAGE WILL BE LIKE DESTROYING A PIECE OF OURSELVES.
CAN WE DO IT?


CAME HERE AS EDDIE BROCK ONCE TO MAKE A SIMILAR DECISION-- ABOUT TAKING MY OWN LIFE--
--THE NIGHT MY OTHER FOUND ME.
THE LIVING COSTUME WAS FLEEING FROM SPIDER-MAN'S REJECTION...
... UNTIL WE SHARED OUR PAIN--
--AND FOUND TRUE SYMBIOSIS.
THE CHURCH IS BIGGER THAN I REMEMBERED...
"... OR WE'RE NOT HALF THE MAN WE USED TO BE."
WAY TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT.
HOPING TO PICK UP SOME KIND OF LEAD ON VENOM BY CHECKING OUT BROCK'S OLD HAUNTS...

"...BUT THIS STORY HAS JUST BEGUN."
THE WHOLE CITY AT MY FEET AGAIN, AND I END UP HERE AT THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE...
...WHERE LOVE DIED FOR PETER PARKER.
SO GROGGY WITH A COLD THAT NIGHT, AND THE GREEN GOBLIN--MY BEST FRIEND'S FATHER--
--WAS TAKING FULL ADVANTAGE OF THAT...
SPLASH FOOL!
YOUR END IS NEAR--
--WHY BE SO BLIND AS NOT TO SEE IT?
I'VE GOT TO PUT EVERYTHING INTO THIS ONE PUNCH--
EVERYTHING I HAVE!
YOU'LL NEVER TAKE THAT GIRL ANYWHERE!
SHE'S DOOMED, DO YOU HEAR ME?
DOOMED--AND SO ARE YOU!
GWEN!
NO!
I'VE GOT TO CATCH HER--
DID IT!
"TOO LITTLE...

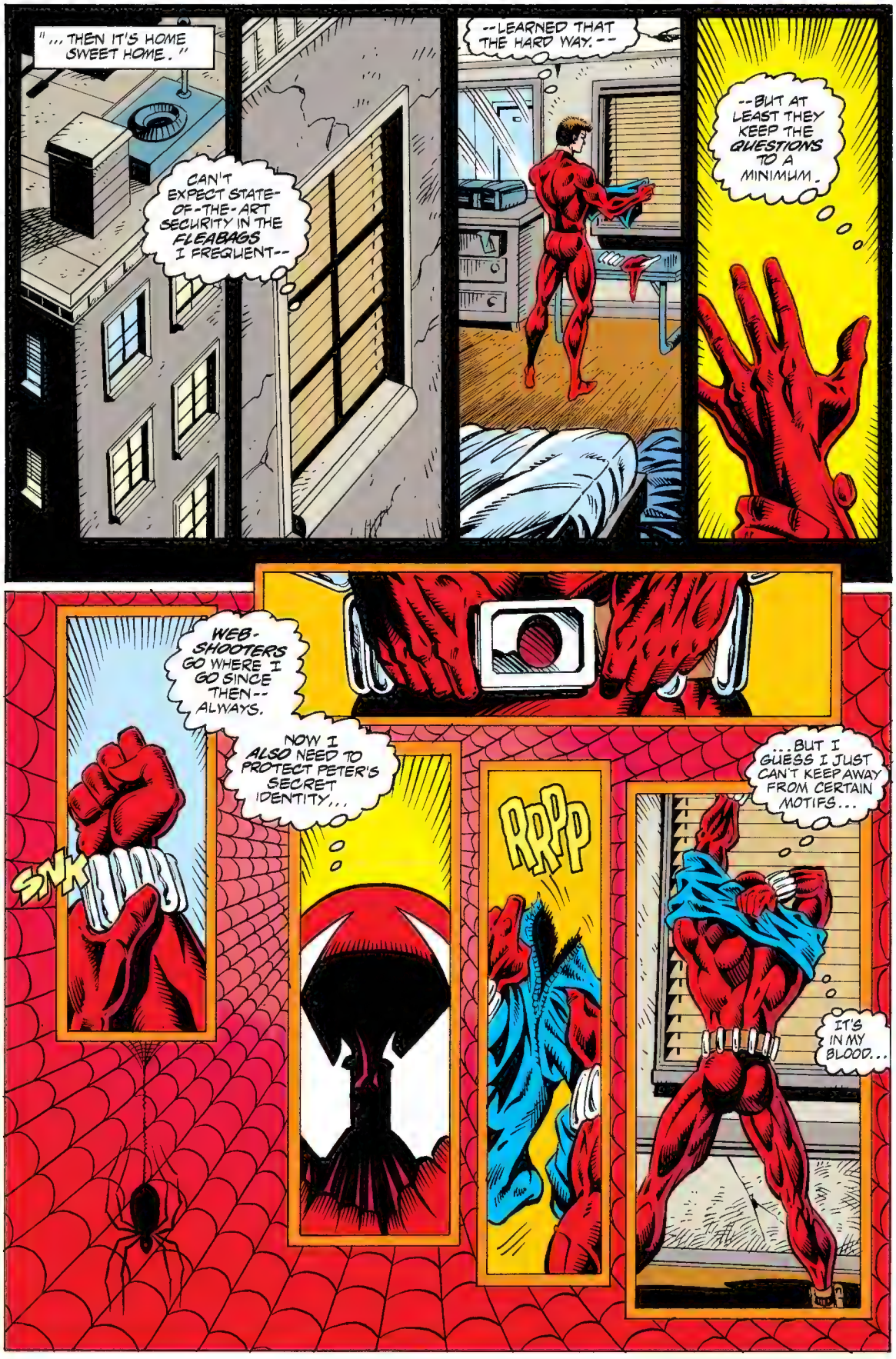
"...TOO LATE."
YOU KILLED THE WOMAN I LOVE--
THE MOST PAINFUL MEMORIES HIT SO HARD SOMETIMES...
...I'M ALMOST GLAD THEY'RE NOT MINE.
YET GWEN STACY'S DEATH ACTUALLY PLANTED THE SEEDS OF WARREN'S WARPED HATRED--
WAIT!
ON THE FAR PARAPET... IS THAT--
A WOMAN ON THE EDGE, LITERALLY. SHE'S GOING TO JUMP.
NO.
SNK
"BUT SHE LOOKS SO SCARED-- SO UNCERTAIN--
"--AND I CAN'T TELL IF SHE'S MORE AFRAID OF LIFE...
"...OR DEATH.
AIEEE!
"NOT AGAIN!"

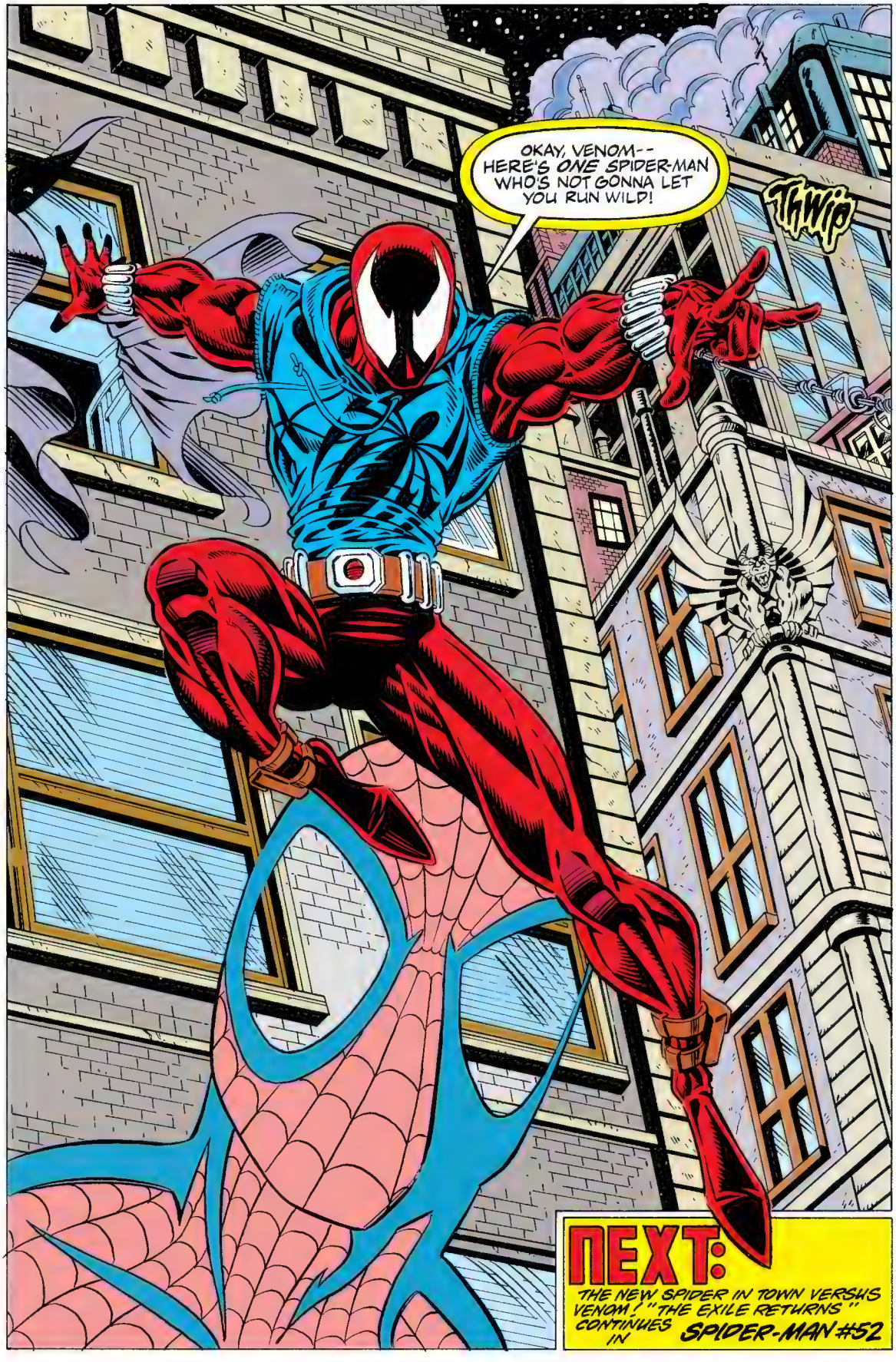

NEVER AGAIN!
SPIDER-MAN OR NOT...
...NO ONE DIES WHILE I'M AROUND.
THWIP
THWIP
HAVE TO TIME MY ARC--
EEEE
--PERFECTLY...


--WITHOUT THE SHOCK OF A SUDDEN STOP.
...SO I CAN REDIRECT HER MOMENTUM--
UHNN...
THIS WOMAN'S STILL ALIVE...

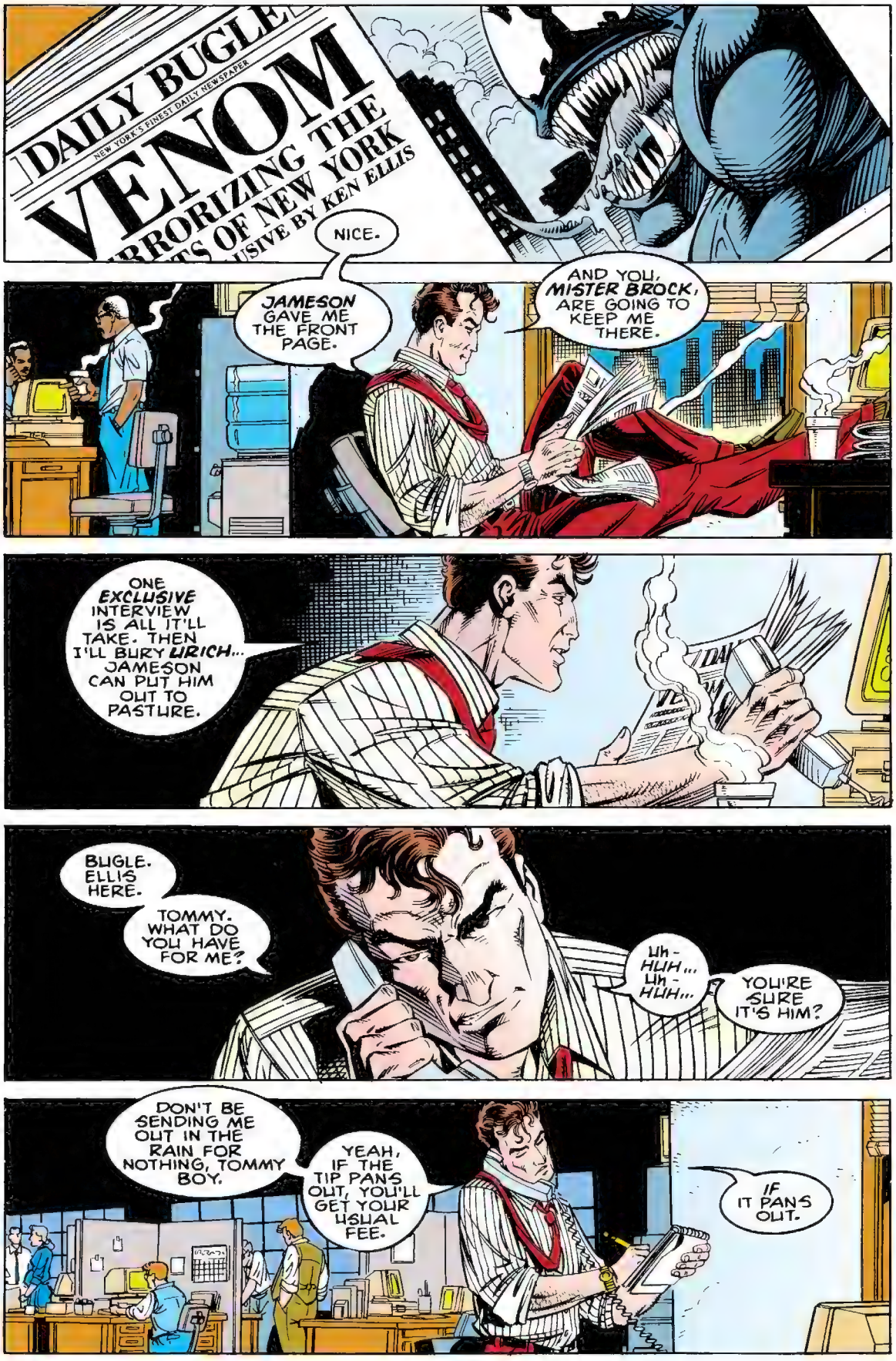
"...BUT I'VE GOT TO GET HER TO A HOSPITAL."
I NEED A STRETCHER OVER HERE FAST, FOLKS--
CY EXIT
--AND A STETHOSCOPE WITH A SYMPATHETIC EAR.
THINK SHE JUST FAINTED, DOC...
...WHEN SHE TOOK A THIMBLE FROM THE TOP OF THE BRIDGE.
SPIDER-MAN CAUGHT HER, BUT I--
MUST HAVE BEEN IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME, YOUNG MAN, AND THE POLICE WILL WANT A--
--STATEMENT?
WHY WOULD HE VANISH LIKE THAT...?

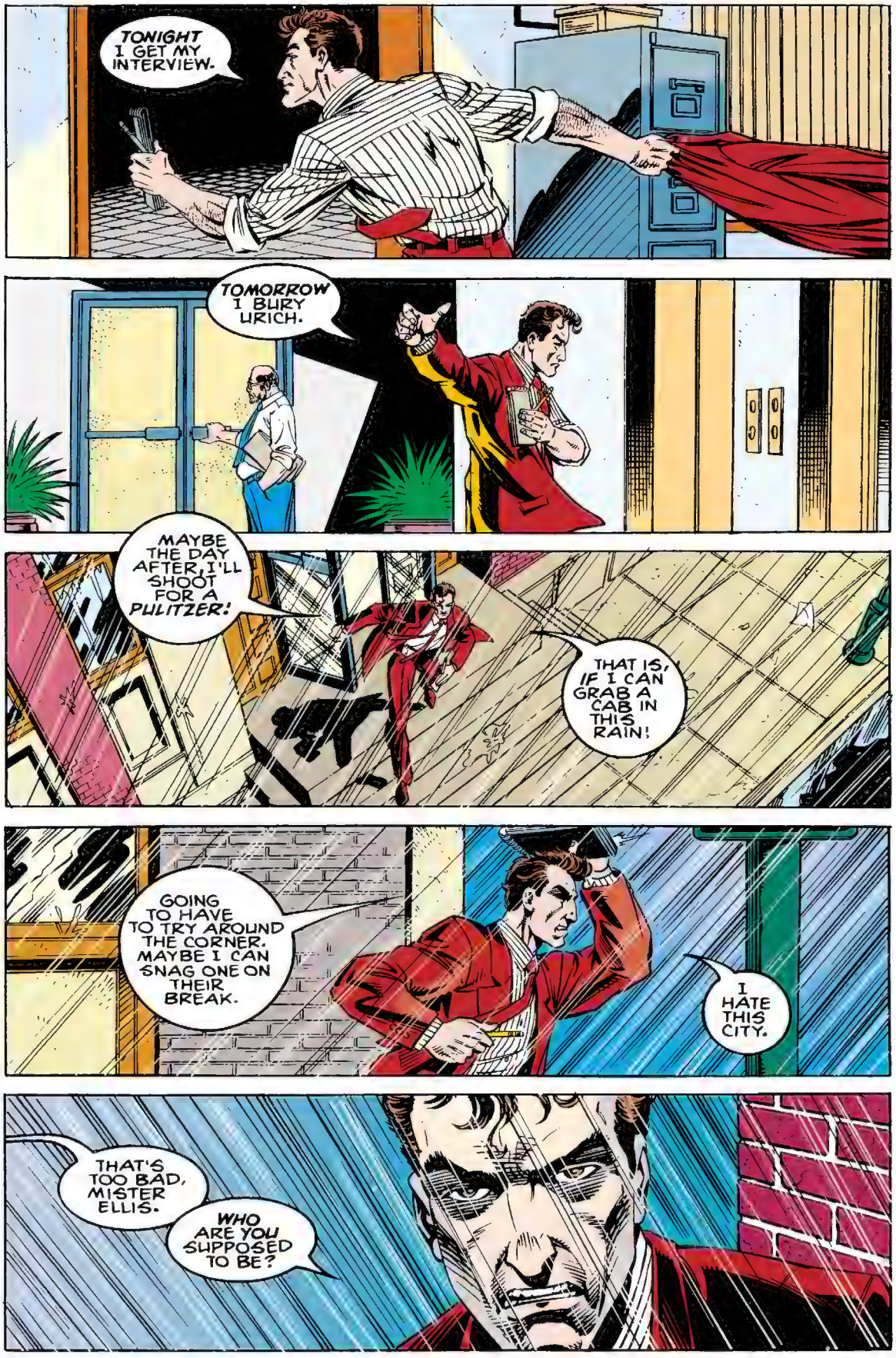
"...HE'S A HERO!"
ALL MY WORST FEARS ARE COMING TRUE...
...THIS CITY'S A TRAP.
THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING LEFT UNDONE--OR SOMEONE WHO NEEDS HELP--
LATEST UPDATE FROM OUR VENOMWATCH '94 SPOTTERS PUTS THE VICIOUS VIGILANTE SOMEWHERE ON THE UPPER EAST SIDE...
HEARD SO MANY NASTY STORIES ABOUT THAT PSYCHO--
--IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE SPIDEY NEVER DEALT WITH HIM...
QUICK STOP AT THE MUSEUM FIRST...


"...THEN IT'S HOME SWEET HOME."
CAN'T EXPECT STATE-OF-THE-ART SECURITY IN THE FLEABAGS I FREQUENT--
--LEARNED THAT THE HARD WAY.--
--BUT AT LEAST THEY KEEP THE QUESTIONS TO A MINIMUM.
WEB-SHOOTERS GO WHERE I GO SINCE THEN--ALWAYS.
SNK
NOW I ALSO NEED TO PROTECT PETER'S SECRET IDENTITY...
RRP
...BUT I GUESS I JUST CAN'T KEEP AWAY FROM CERTAIN MOTIFS...
IT'S IN MY BLOOD...


OKAY, VENOM-- HERE'S ONE SPIDER-MAN WHO'S NOT GONNA LET YOU RUN WILD!
THWIP
NEXT:
THE NEW SPIDER IN TOWN VERSUS VENOM! "THE EXILE RETURNS" CONTINUES IN SPIDER-MAN #52

MARVEL COMICS
SPIDER-MAN
52
NOV
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THE CLONE AGAINST SPIDER-MAN'S MOST LETHAL FOE!
THE EXILE RETURNS PART 2 OF 4
VENOM IS BACK--AND HE SURE AIN'T A GOOD GUY!


DAILY BUGLE
NEW YORK'S FINEST DAILY NEWSPAPER
VENOM
RRORIZING THE
TS OF NEW YORK
USIVE BY KEN ELLIS
NICE.
JAMESON GAVE ME THE FRONT PAGE.
AND YOU, MISTER BROCK, ARE GOING TO KEEP ME THERE.
ONE EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW IS ALL IT'LL TAKE. THEN I'LL BURY URICH... JAMESON CAN PUT HIM OUT TO PASTURE.
BUGLE. ELLIS HERE.
TOMMY. WHAT DO YOU HAVE FOR ME?
UH-HUH... UH-HUH...
YOU'RE SURE IT'S HIM?
DON'T BE SENDING ME OUT IN THE RAIN FOR NOTHING, TOMMY BOY.
YEAH, IF THE TIP PANS OUT, YOU'LL GET YOUR USUAL FEE.
IF IT PANS OUT.


TONIGHT I GET MY INTERVIEW.
TOMORROW I BURY URICH.
MAYBE THE DAY AFTER, I'LL SHOOT FOR A PULITZER!
THAT IS, IF I CAN GRAB A CAB IN THIS RAIN!
GOING TO HAVE TO TRY AROUND THE CORNER. MAYBE I CAN SNAG ONE ON THEIR BREAK.
I HATE THIS CITY.
THAT'S TOO BAD, MISTER ELLIS.
WHO ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE?

NOBODY.
NOBODY IMPORTANT AT ALL.
STAN LEE PRESENTS
~~SPIDER-MAN~~
BEN REILLY
IN
DEADLINE
MACKIE·LYLE·HAMMA·COMICRAFT·TINSLEY·FINGEROTH·DEFALCO

GOT NO TIME FOR THIS RIGHT NOW.

CALL ME. WE CAN TALK LATER.

I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD *MAKE* TIME, MISTER ELLIS.

THE NAME'S *KEN*, AND...

...WHO DO YOU THINK *YOU* ARE? *SPIDER-MAN?*

NO... I'D NEVER THINK *THAT!*

BUT I DO NEED YOUR HELP! I NEED TO FIND VENOM... TO STOP HIM... I'VE BEEN AWAY FROM THE CITY FOR TOO LONG... I CAN'T GET A BEAD ON HIM.

THEN I READ YOUR ARTICLE. YOU SEEM TO HAVE THE INSIDE TRACK ON VENOM. YOU CLAIM TO HAVE SEEN HIM LAST NIGHT... AT THE CHURCH... I NEED YOUR HELP FINDING HIM.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME, HERO?

I'M NO HERO. THIS IS JUST SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO.

AND I WANT AN INTERVIEW WITH VENOM... AND NOW... MAYBE... WITH *YOU!*

I HAVE NOTHING INTERESTING TO SAY!

YOU NEVER KNOW. I'VE GOT A LEAD ON WHERE VENOM IS RIGHT NOW. I GIVE IT TO YOU AND YOU CATCH HIM... I WANT AN *EXCLUSIVE* FROM BOTH OF YOU.

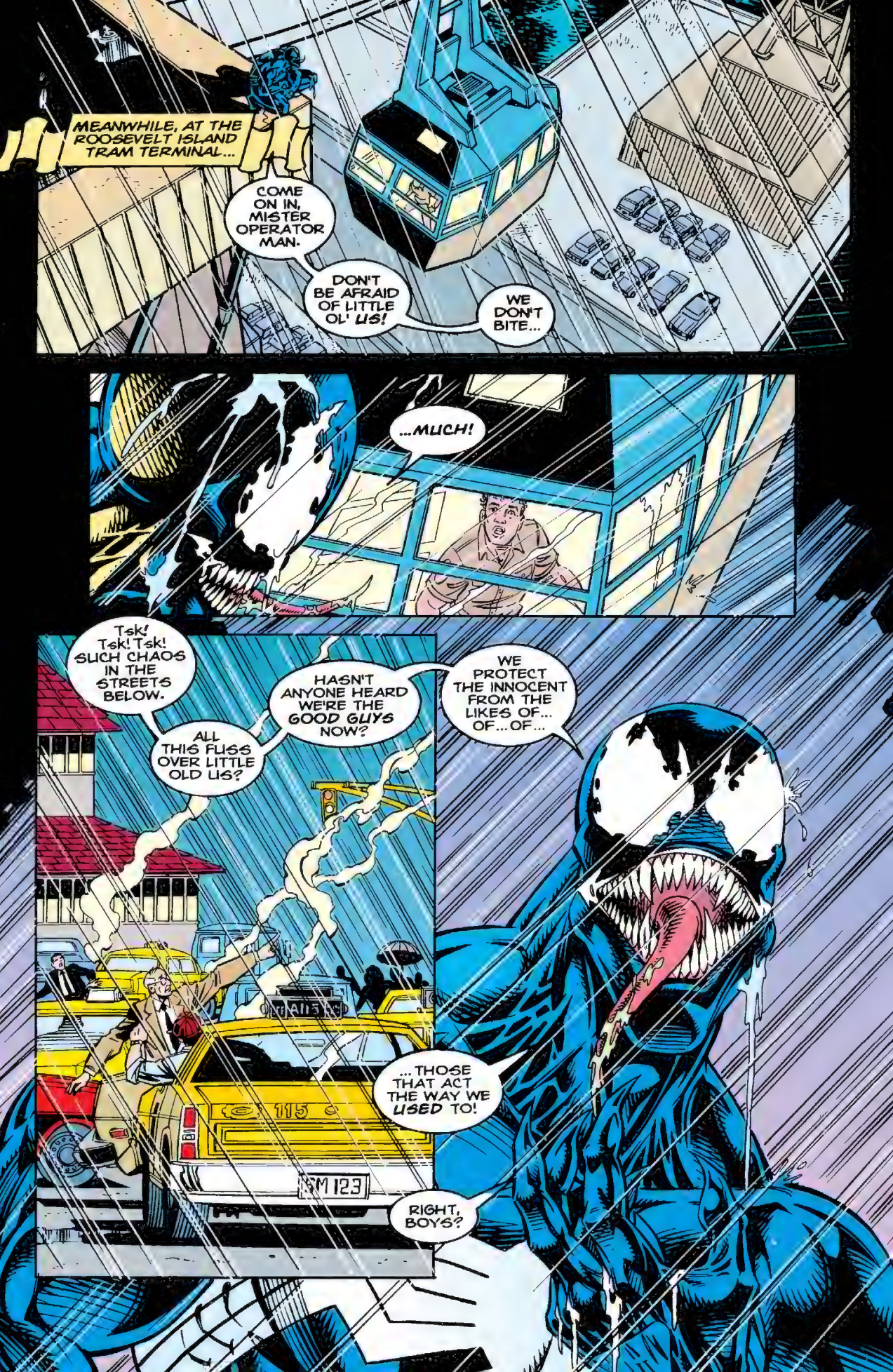
I DON'T KNOW...

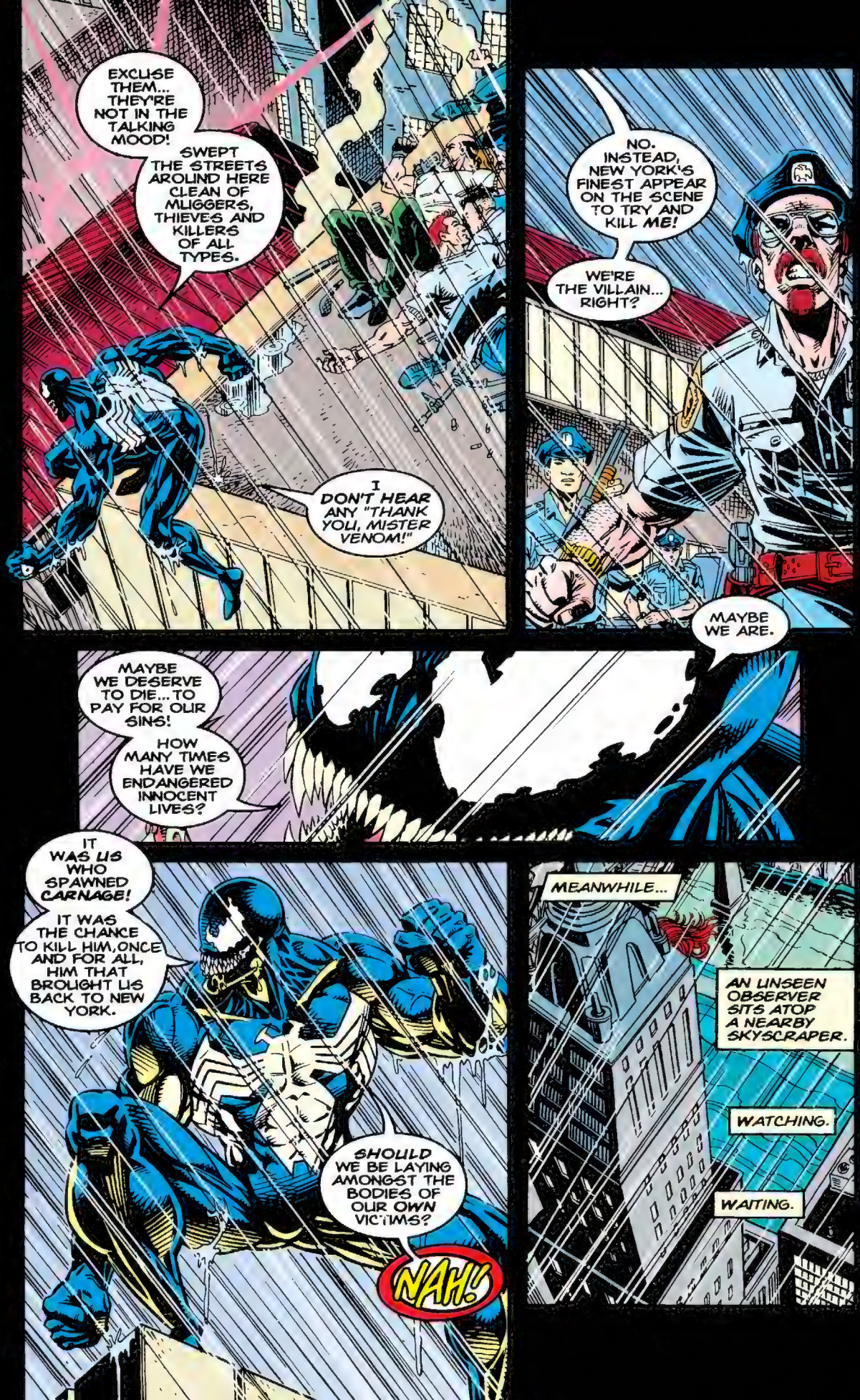
GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME. YOU SEEM LIKE A MAN OF YOUR WORD.

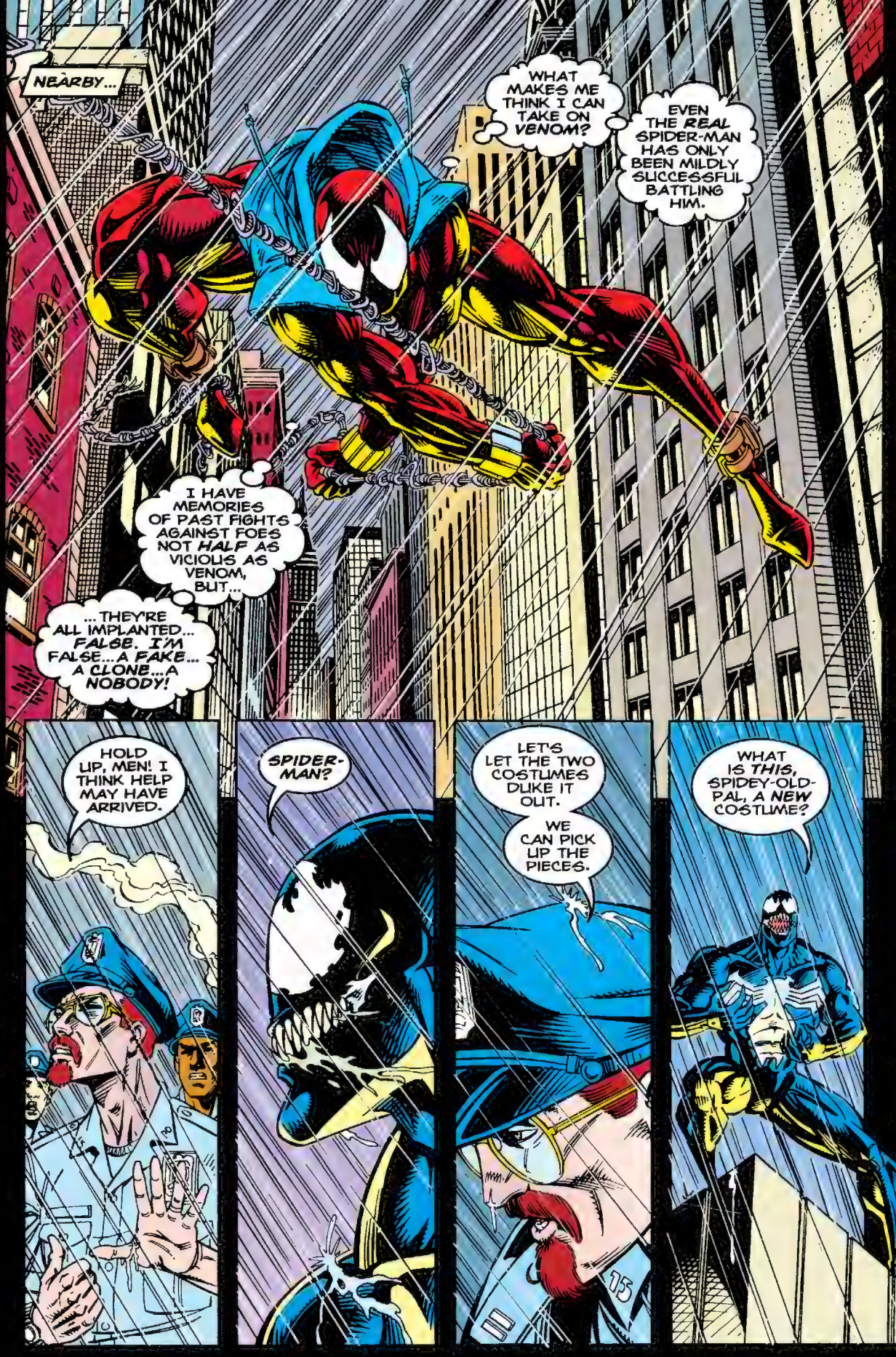
HE'S BEEN SPOTTED OVER AT THE *ROOSEVELT ISLAND TRAM TERMINAL*. I'M HEADING OVER THERE MYSELF.

WANT TO SPLIT A CAB?

SEE YOU THERE... *HERO!*

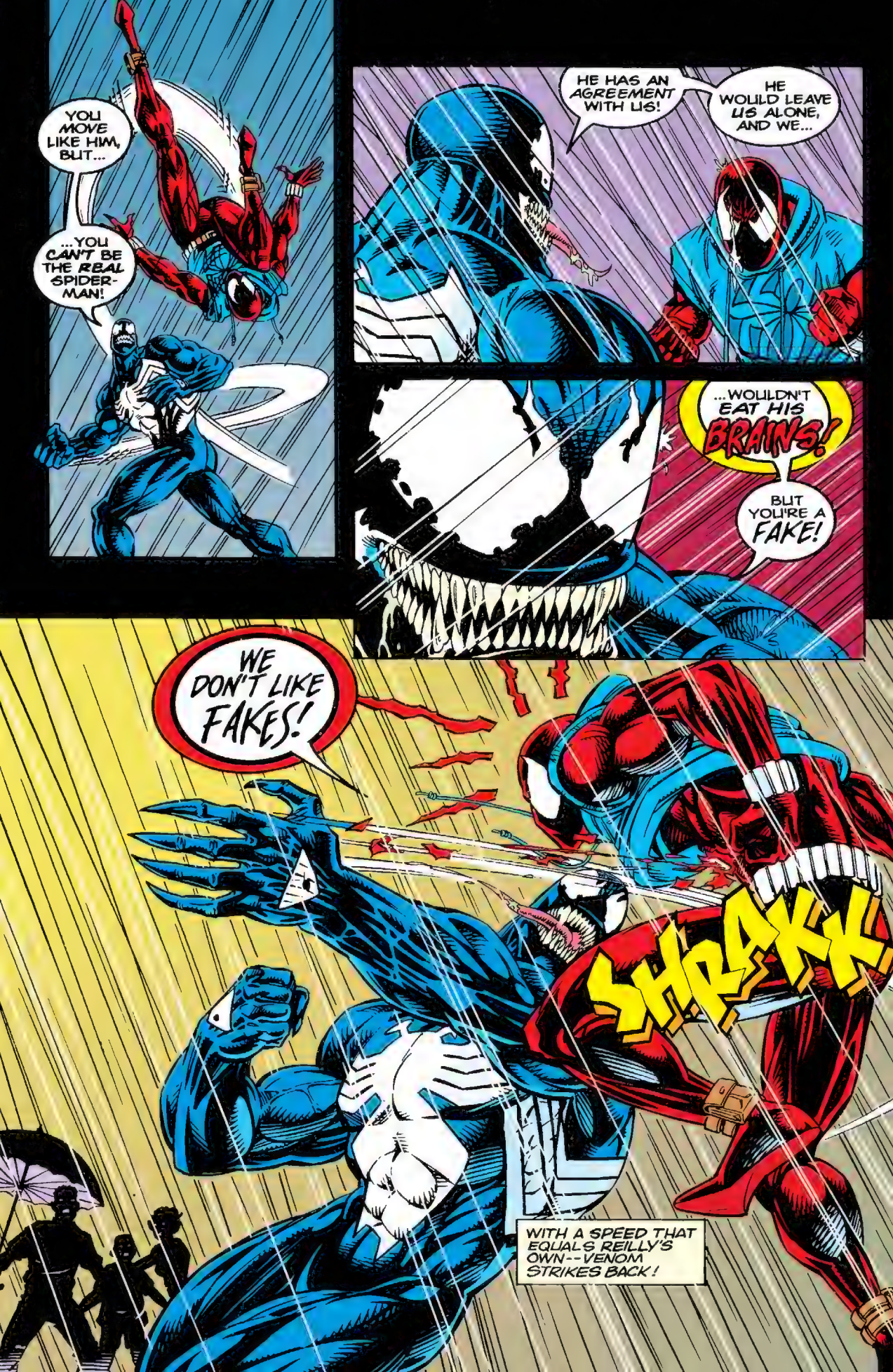

MEANWHILE, AT THE ROOSEVELT ISLAND TRAM TERMINAL...
COME ON IN, MISTER OPERATOR MAN.
DON'T BE AFRAID OF LITTLE OL' US!
WE DON'T BITE...
...MUCH!
Tsk! Tsk! Tsk! SUCH CHAOS IN THE STREETS BELOW.
ALL THIS FUSS OVER LITTLE OLD US?
HASN'T ANYONE HEARD WE'RE THE GOOD GUYS NOW?
WE PROTECT THE INNOCENT FROM THE LIKES OF... OF... OF...
...THOSE THAT ACT THE WAY WE USED TO!
RIGHT, BOYS?
115
SM 123

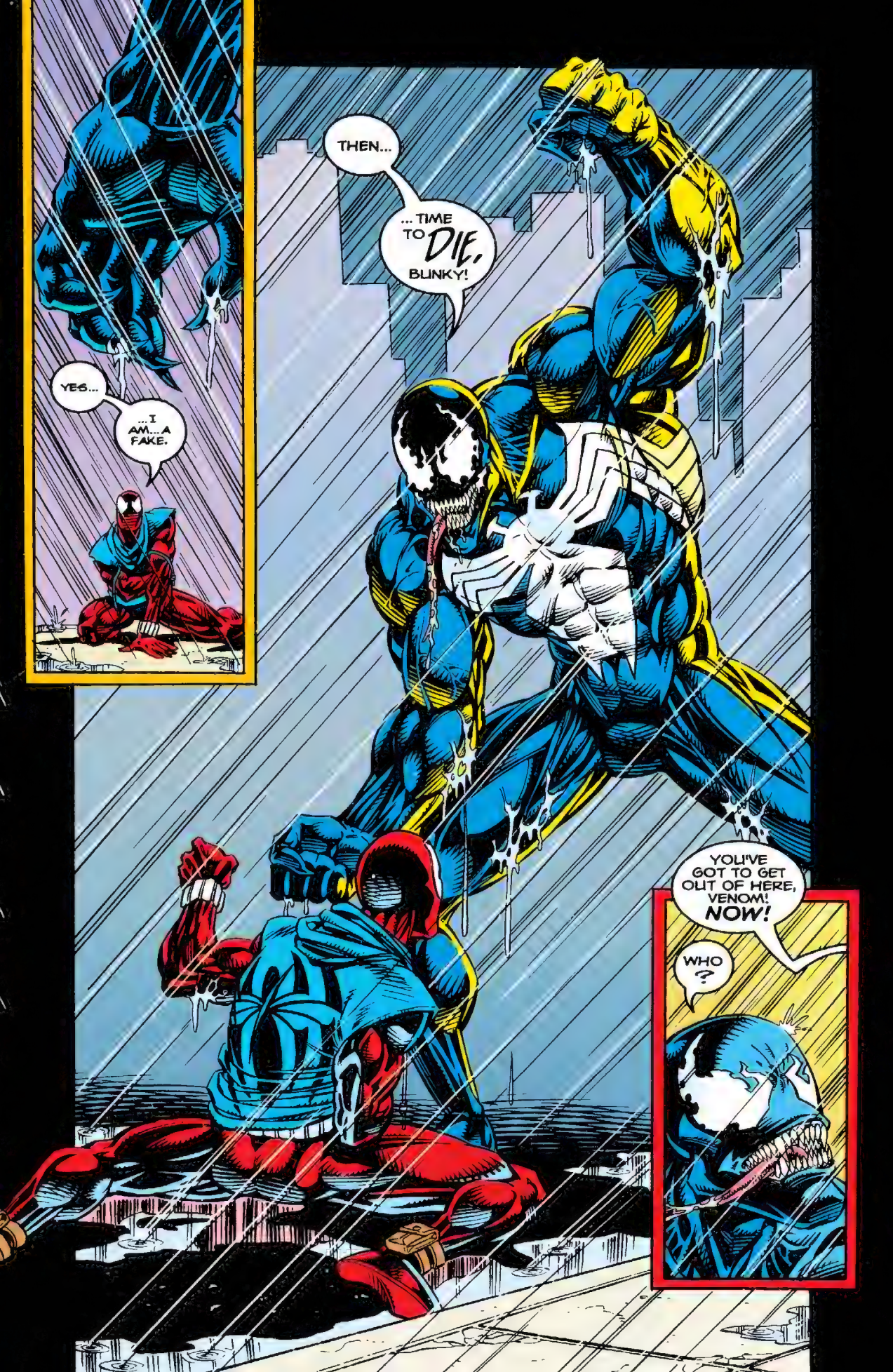

EXCUSE THEM... THEY'RE NOT IN THE TALKING MOOD!
SWEPT THE STREETS AROUND HERE CLEAN OF MUGGERS, THIEVES AND KILLERS OF ALL TYPES.
I DON'T HEAR ANY "THANK YOU, MISTER VENOM!"
NO. INSTEAD, NEW YORK'S FINEST APPEAR ON THE SCENE TO TRY AND KILL ME!
WE'RE THE VILLAIN... RIGHT?
MAYBE WE ARE.
MAYBE WE DESERVE TO DIE... TO PAY FOR OUR SINS!
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE WE ENDANGERED INNOCENT LIVES?
IT WAS US WHO SPAWNED CARNAGE!
IT WAS THE CHANCE TO KILL HIM, ONCE AND FOR ALL, HIM THAT BROUGHT US BACK TO NEW YORK.
SHOULD WE BE LAYING AMONGST THE BODIES OF OUR OWN VICTIMS?
NAH!
MEANWHILE...
AN UNSEEN OBSERVER SITS ATOP A NEARBY SKYSCRAPER.
WATCHING.
WAITING.


NEARBY...
WHAT MAKES ME THINK I CAN TAKE ON VENOM?
EVEN THE REAL SPIDER-MAN HAS ONLY BEEN MILDLY SUCCESSFUL BATTLING HIM.
I HAVE MEMORIES OF PAST FIGHTS AGAINST FOES NOT HALF AS VICIOUS AS VENOM, BUT...
...THEY'RE ALL IMPLANTED... FALSE. I'M FALSE...A FAKE... A CLONE...A NOBODY!
HOLD UP, MEN! I THINK HELP MAY HAVE ARRIVED.
SPIDER-MAN?
LET'S LET THE TWO COSTUMES DUKE IT OUT.
WE CAN PICK UP THE PIECES.
WHAT IS THIS, SPIDEY-OLD-PAL, A NEW COSTUME?

WHAT AM I DOING HERE?

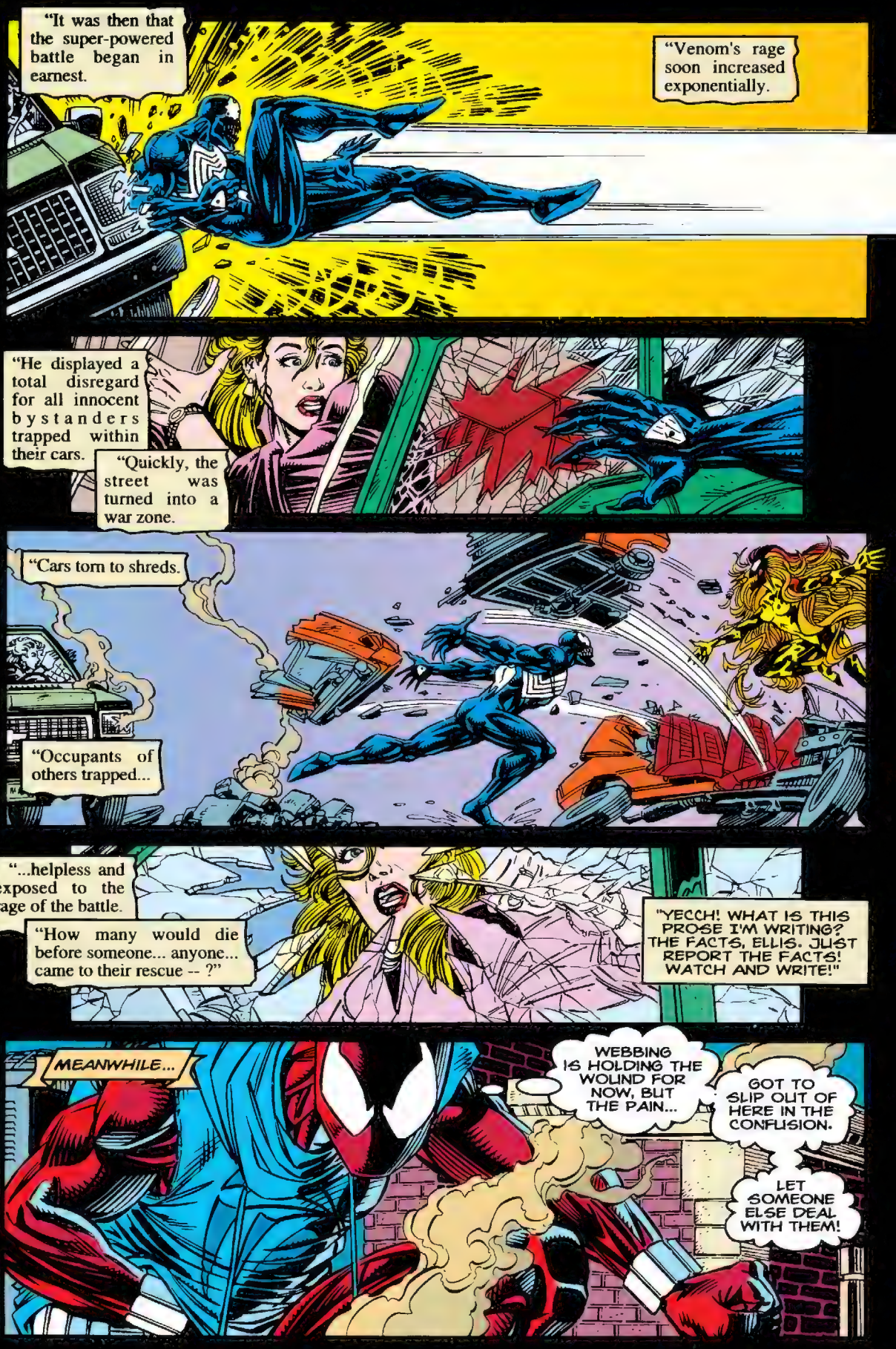
BAD MOVE!
HE'S GOT HOLD OF MY LEG --
-- WE'RE BOTH GOING DOWN!
THWIP
DID IT!
THANKS FOR BREAKING OUR FALL, PAL!
NOW WE HOPE YOU WON'T MIND IF WE RETURN THE FAVOR AND...
...BREAK YOUR SPINE!
HE'S FASTER THAN I THOUGHT! AND TWICE AS INSANE!
I SHOULD HAVE LEFT THIS TO SOMEONE WHO COULD HANDLE IT!


YOU MOVE LIKE HIM, BUT...
...YOU CAN'T BE THE REAL SPIDER-MAN!
HE HAS AN AGREEMENT WITH US!
HE WOULD LEAVE US ALONE, AND WE...
...WOULDN'T EAT HIS BRAINS!
BUT YOU'RE A FAKE!
WE DON'T LIKE FAKES!
SHRAKK
WITH A SPEED THAT EQUALS REILLY'S OWN--VENOM STRIKES BACK!

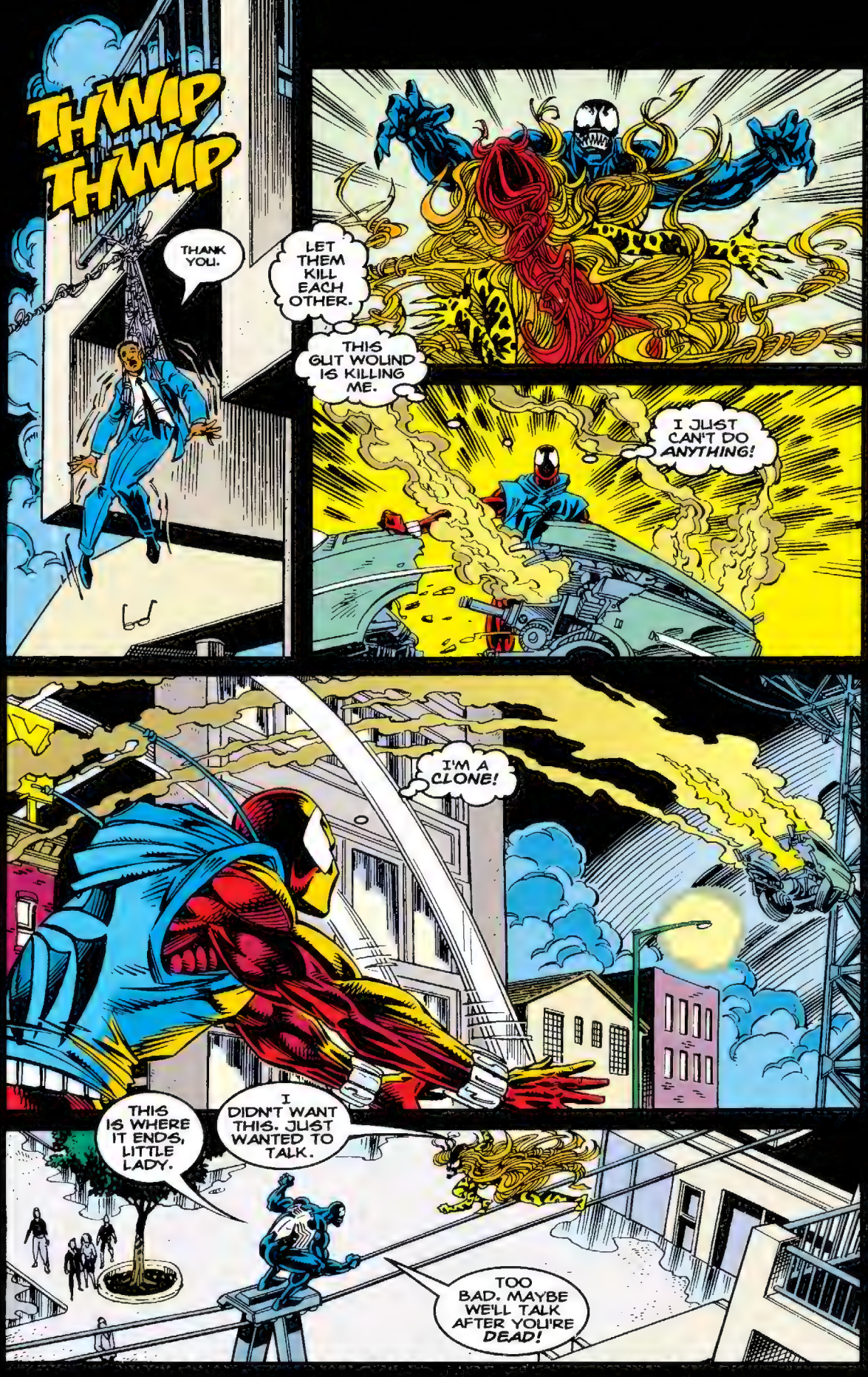

YES...
...I AM... A FAKE.
THEN...
...TIME TO DIE, BUNKY!
YOU'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE, VENOM! NOW!
WHO?

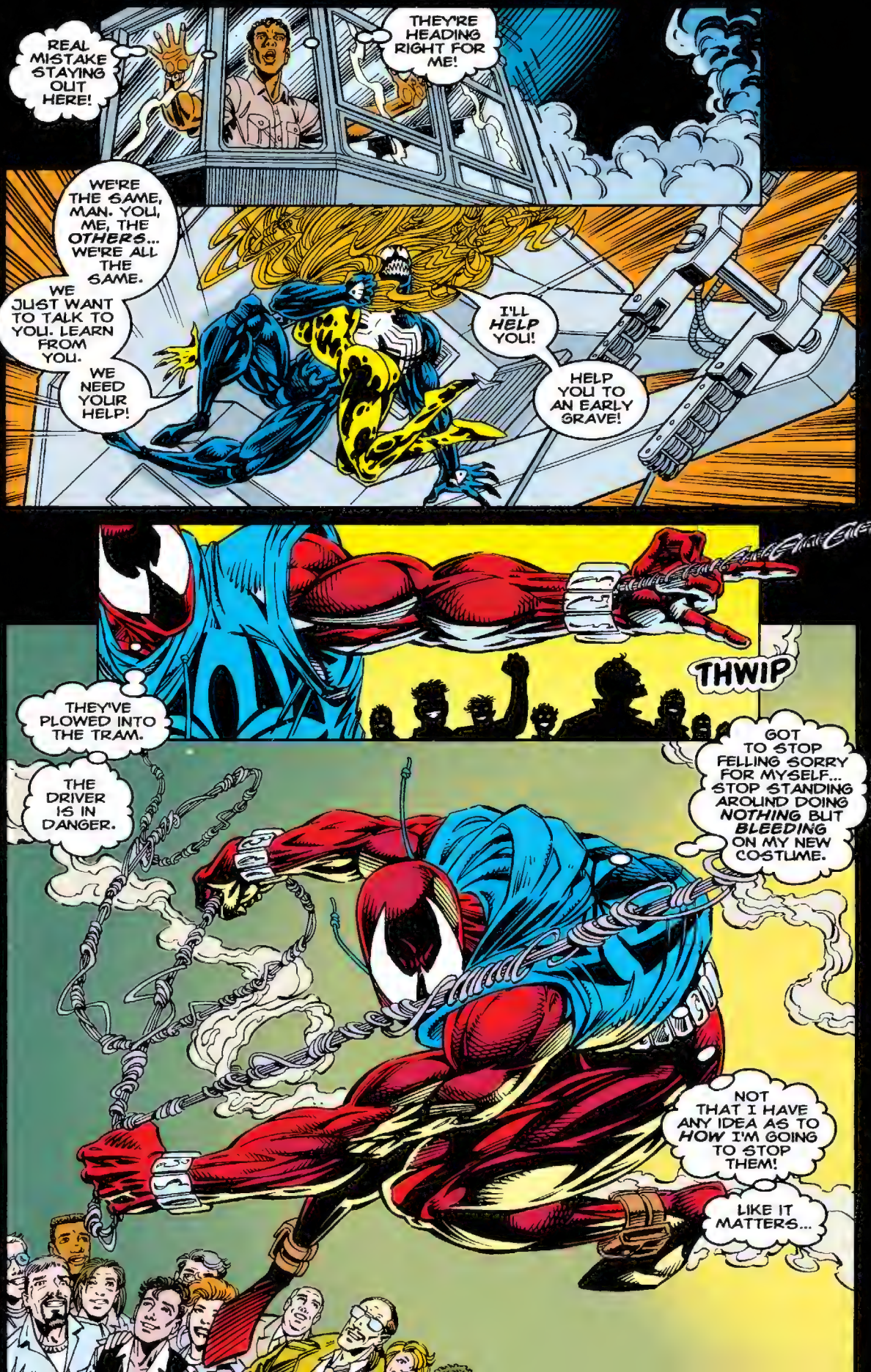
THE POLICE KNOW HOW TO DEFEAT YOU... US... THEY'LL HAVE GUARDSMEN HERE IN NO TIME!
COME, I'LL HELP YOU ESCAPE FROM HERE.
YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE SYMBIOTIC SPAWN OF MY OTHER -- CREATED BY THE LIFE FOUNDATION TO KILL ME!
WE THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!*
WE NEED TO TALK!
*SEE VENOM: LETHAL PROTECTOR #3. --DANNY
NO! NO TALK!
ALL SPAWN MUST DIE!
LIKE CARNAGE, YOU ARE ALL EVIL... KILL INNOCENTS!
I MUST DESTROY YOU ALL!
THIS WOUND IS BAD... LOSING A LOT OF BLOOD.
AND NOW THERE ARE TWO OF THEM.
I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE.

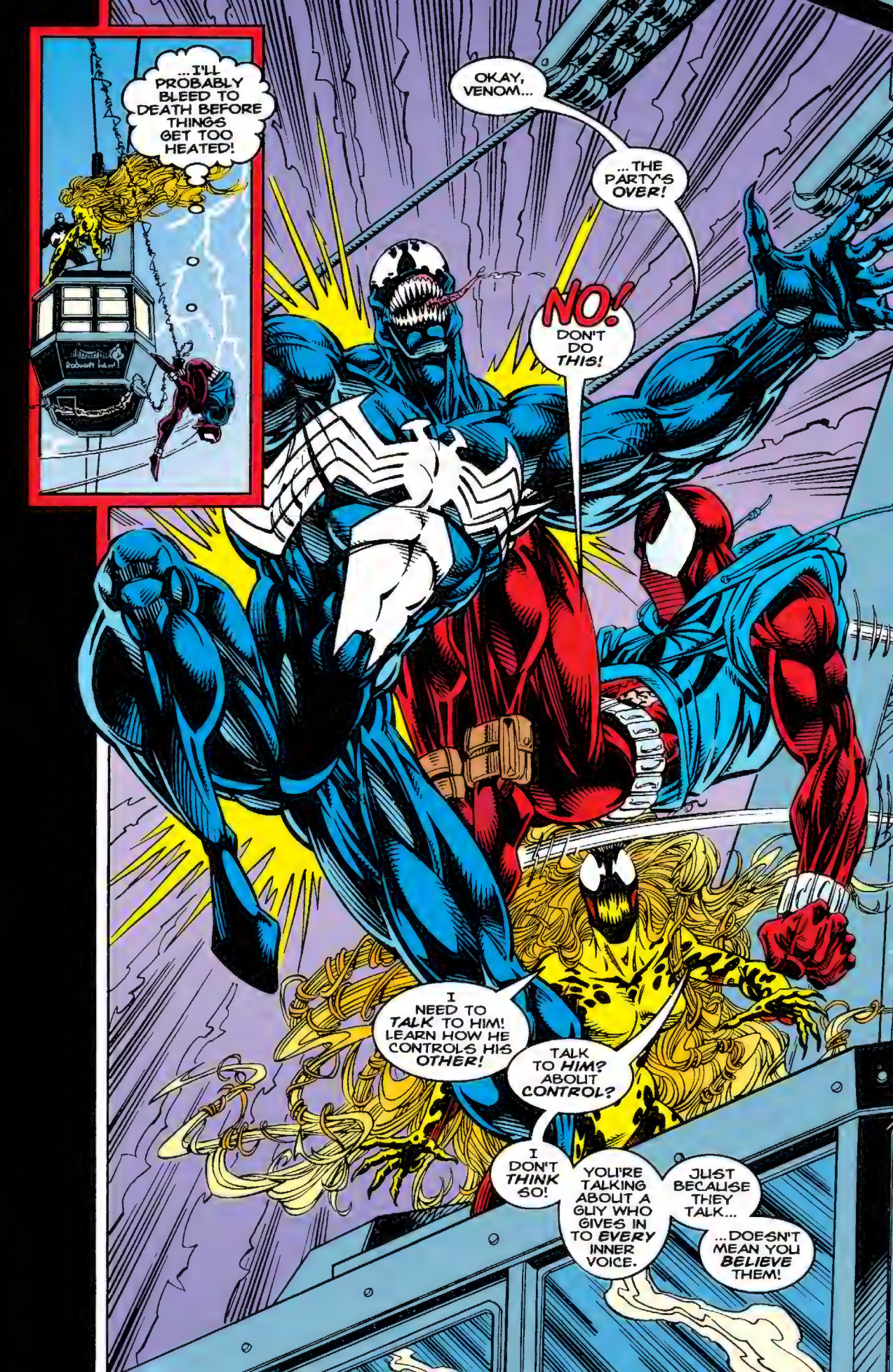
MEANWHILE...
THIS IS IT.
ALL I'VE GOT TO DO IS GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE FIGHT.
NOT SO CLOSE THAT I GET MY HEAD RIPPED OFF, BUT JUST CLOSE ENOUGH TO BE THERE WHEN IT'S OVER.
POLICE
ONE OF THEM HAS TO SURVIVE.
AND THAT'S THE ONE I WANT TO INTERVIEW.
MEANWHILE, I'VE GOT TO TAKE NOTES. FILE THE STORY. THIS IS A START.
GEEZ! CAN'T BELIEVE I DIDN'T BRING A CAMERA!
"The costumed criminal known as Venom appeared to have met his match in the female, who bore more than a passing resemblance to him.

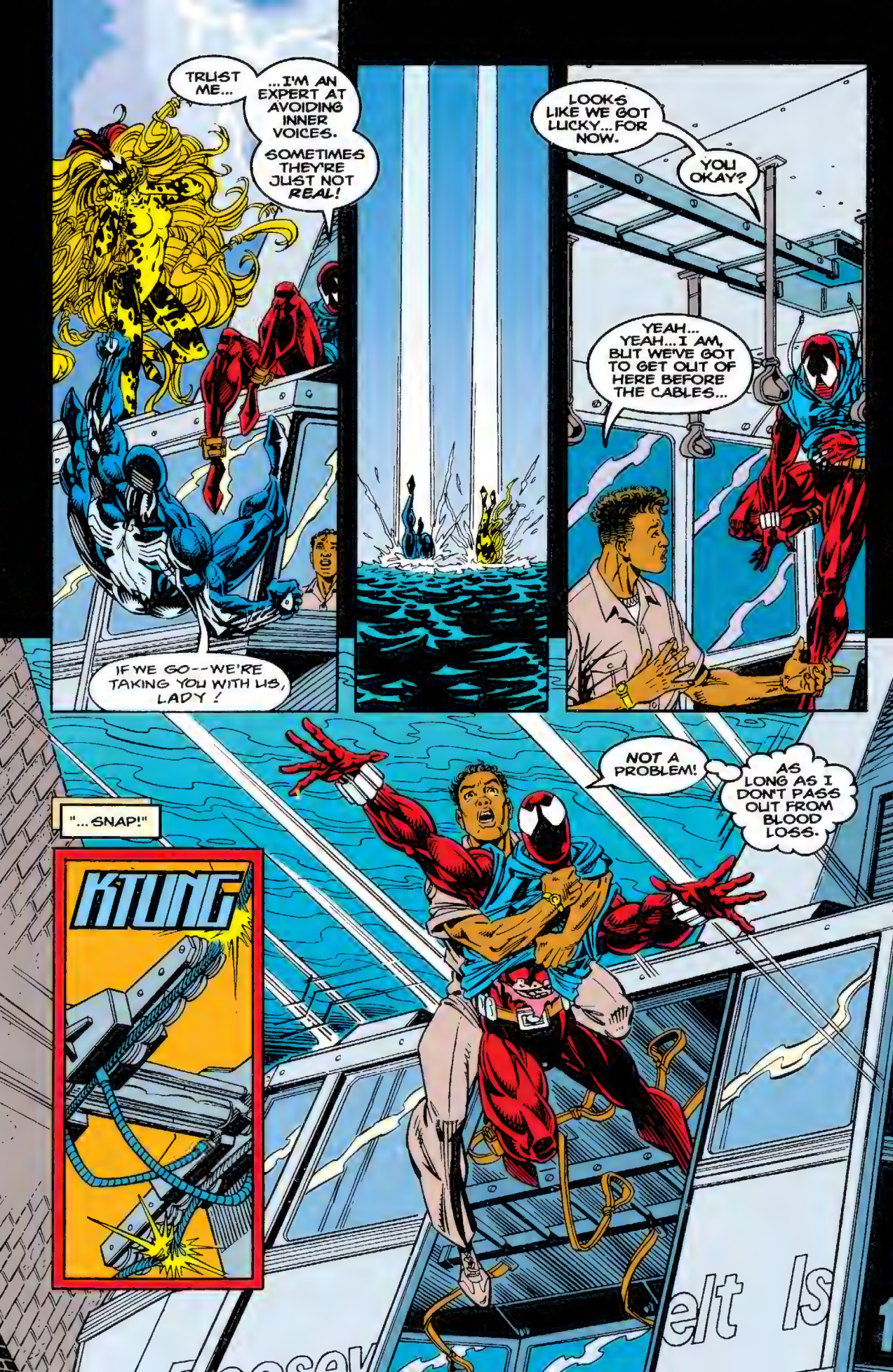

"It was then that the super-powered battle began in earnest.
"Venom's rage soon increased exponentially.
"He displayed a total disregard for all innocent bystanders trapped within their cars.
"Quickly, the street was turned into a war zone.
"Cars torn to shreds.
"Occupants of others trapped...
"...helpless and exposed to the rage of the battle.
"How many would die before someone... anyone... came to their rescue -- ?"
"YECCH! WHAT IS THIS PROSE I'M WRITING? THE FACTS, ELLIS. JUST REPORT THE FACTS! WATCH AND WRITE!"
MEANWHILE...
WEBBING IS HOLDING THE WOUND FOR NOW, BUT THE PAIN...
GOT TO SLIP OUT OF HERE IN THE CONFUSION.
LET SOMEONE ELSE DEAL WITH THEM!

ANYONE ELSE.
I'M USELESS HERE.
THANK YOU.
CAN'T CUT IT.
THE MEMORIES I HAVE... SPIDER-MAN'S MEMORIES...
...JUST AREN'T ENOUGH TO TURN ME... AN IMPOSTOR... INTO SOMETHING I'M NOT...
...A HERO!
NO... NO... I'M FALL--

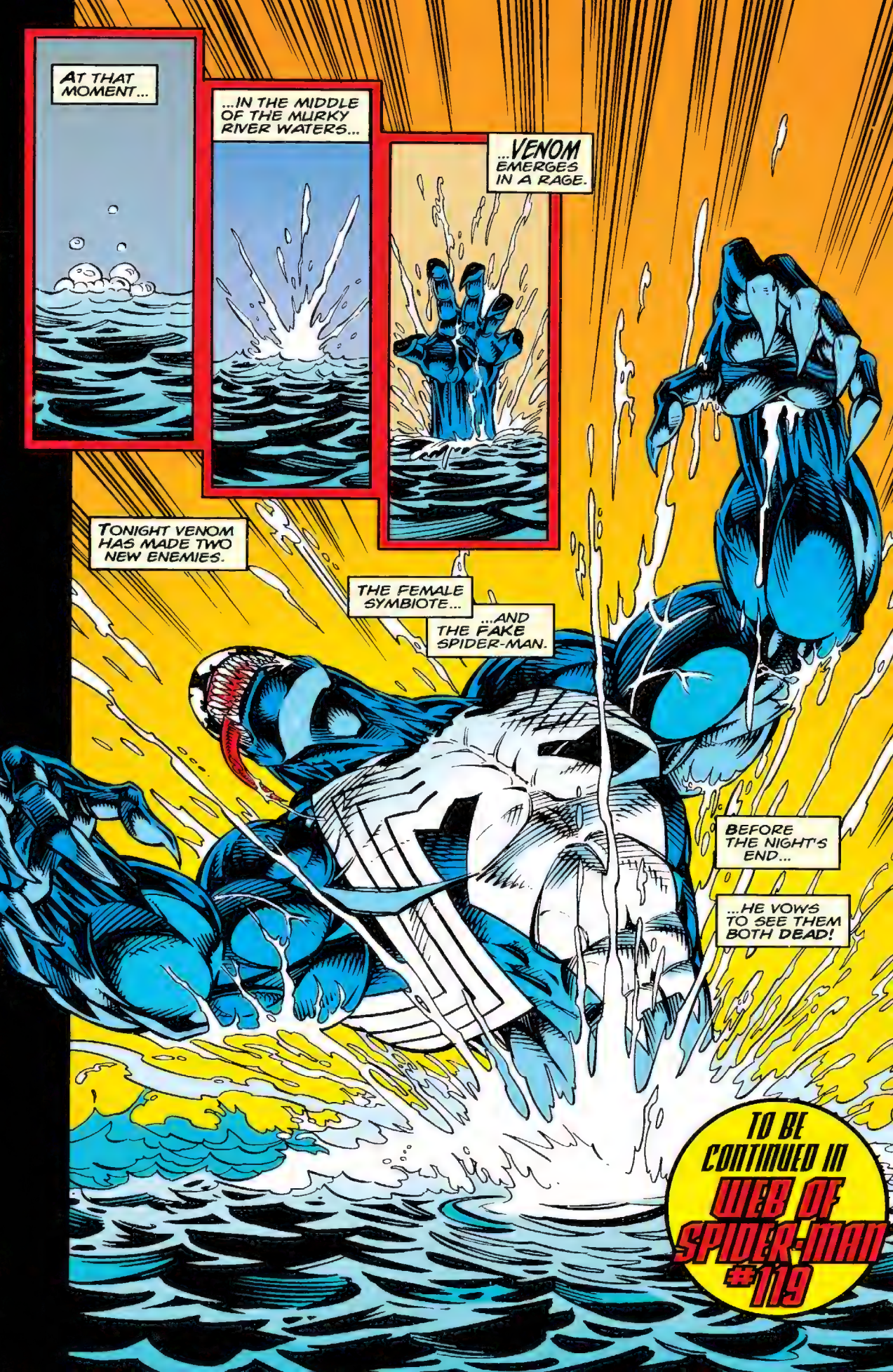

THWIP THWIP
THANK YOU.
LET THEM KILL EACH OTHER.
THIS GUT WOUND IS KILLING ME.
I JUST CAN'T DO ANYTHING!
I'M A CLONE!
THIS IS WHERE IT ENDS, LITTLE LADY.
I DIDN'T WANT THIS. JUST WANTED TO TALK.
TOO BAD. MAYBE WE'LL TALK AFTER YOU'RE DEAD!


REAL MISTAKE STAYING OUT HERE!
THEY'RE HEADING RIGHT FOR ME!
WE'RE THE SAME, MAN. YOU, ME, THE OTHERS... WE'RE ALL THE SAME.
WE JUST WANT TO TALK TO YOU. LEARN FROM YOU.
WE NEED YOUR HELP!
I'LL HELP YOU!
HELP YOU TO AN EARLY GRAVE!
THWIP
THEY'VE PLOWED INTO THE TRAM.
THE DRIVER IS IN DANGER.
GOT TO STOP FELLING SORRY FOR MYSELF... STOP STANDING AROUND DOING NOTHING BUT BLEEDING ON MY NEW COSTUME.
NOT THAT I HAVE ANY IDEA AS TO HOW I'M GOING TO STOP THEM!
LIKE IT MATTERS...


...I'LL PROBABLY BLEED TO DEATH BEFORE THINGS GET TOO HEATED!
OKAY, VENOM...
...THE PARTY'S OVER!
NO! DON'T DO THIS!
I NEED TO TALK TO HIM! LEARN HOW HE CONTROLS HIS OTHER!
TALK TO HIM? ABOUT CONTROL?
I DON'T THINK SO!
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT A GUY WHO GIVES IN TO EVERY INNER VOICE.
JUST BECAUSE THEY TALK...
...DOESN'T MEAN YOU BELIEVE THEM!


TRUST ME...
...I'M AN EXPERT AT AVOIDING INNER VOICES.
SOMETIMES THEY'RE JUST NOT REAL!
IF WE GO--WE'RE TAKING YOU WITH US, LADY!
LOOKS LIKE WE GOT LUCKY...FOR NOW.
YOU OKAY?
YEAH... YEAH...I AM, BUT WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE CABLES...
NOT A PROBLEM!
AS LONG AS I DON'T PASS OUT FROM BLOOD LOSS.
"...SNAP!"
KTUNG

HE SAVED THAT MAN!
HE SAVED US ALL!
HE'S A HERO!
FROM WHAT I JUST EXPERIENCED, I CAN TELL A FALL INTO THE RIVER IS AT MOST GOING TO SLOW THEM DOWN.
HERO
BUT AFTER TONIGHT, IT'S SOMEONE ELSE'S PROBLEM.
AMAZING!
D'YOU SEE THAT?
I'M LEAVING.
TONIGHT.
HERO
HEY, HERO! HOW ABOUT THAT INTERVIEW?
I'M NO HERO!
I'M BARELY A MAN!
THESE PEOPLE SAY OTHERWISE, BUDDY!
AND IT'S MY RESPONSIBILITY TO WRITE UP THE STORY THAT TELLS THE WORLD ABOUT YOU --
-- THE LATEST COSTUMED HERO... CALLED... CALLED...
... THE SCARLET SPIDER!
YEAH. I LIKE THE WAY THAT SOUNDS.


AT THAT MOMENT...
...IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MURKY RIVER WATERS...
...VENOM EMERGES IN A RAGE.
TONIGHT VENOM HAS MADE TWO NEW ENEMIES.
THE FEMALE SYMBIOTE...
...AND THE FAKE SPIDER-MAN.
BEFORE THE NIGHT'S END...
...HE VOWS TO SEE THEM BOTH DEAD!
TO BE CONTINUED IN WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #119

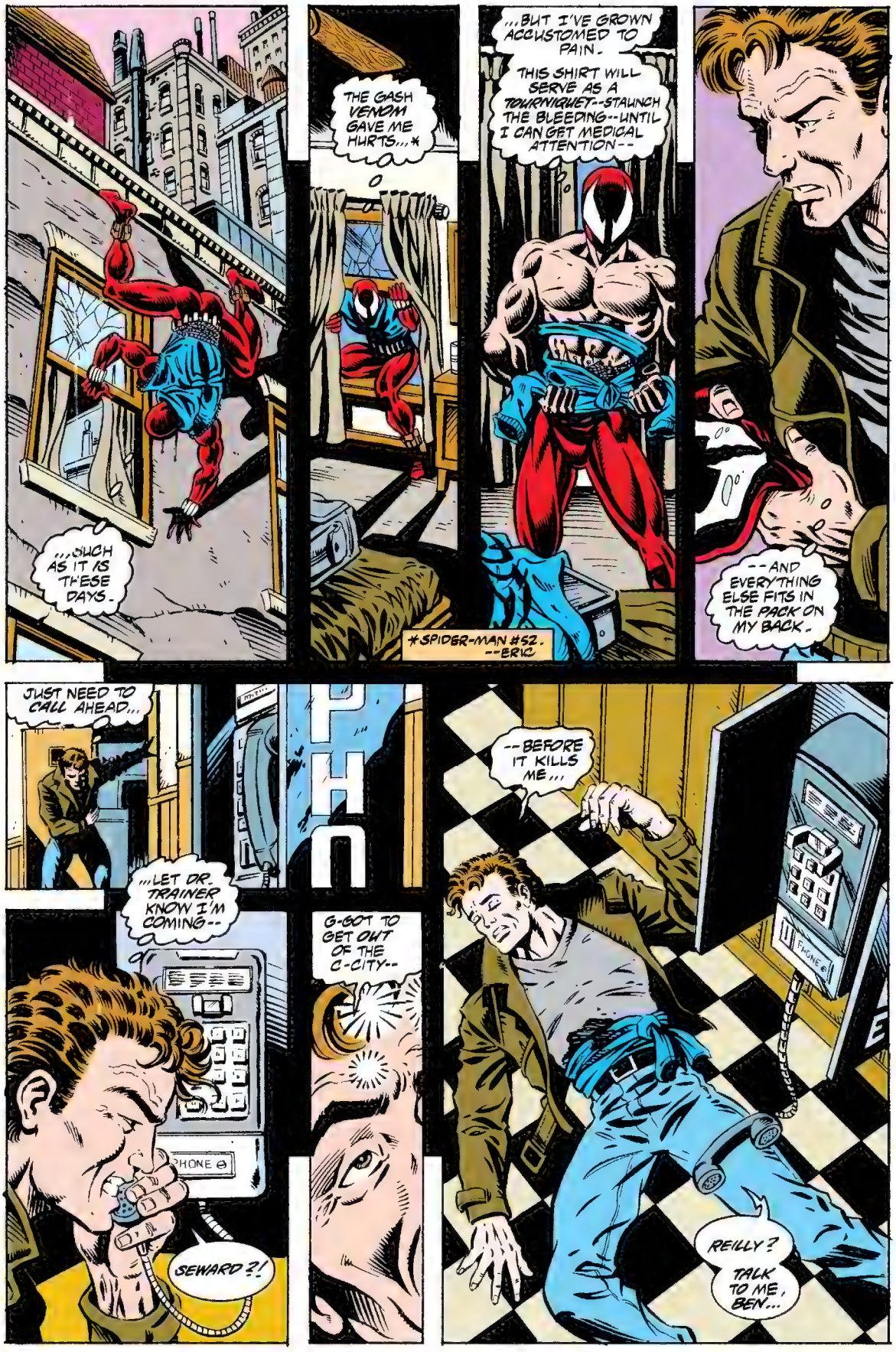
MARVEL COMICS
WEB OF SPIDER-MAN
THE SCARLET SPIDER! VENOM!
NEED WE SAY MORE?
119 DEC
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THE EXILE RETURNS PART 3 OF 4
ALSO IN THIS ISSUE..
A NEW MYSTERY MAN ENTERS THE SPIDERVERSE!
WHO IS KAINE?
AND WHAT DOES HE WANT WITH SPIDER-MAN AND BEN REILLY?

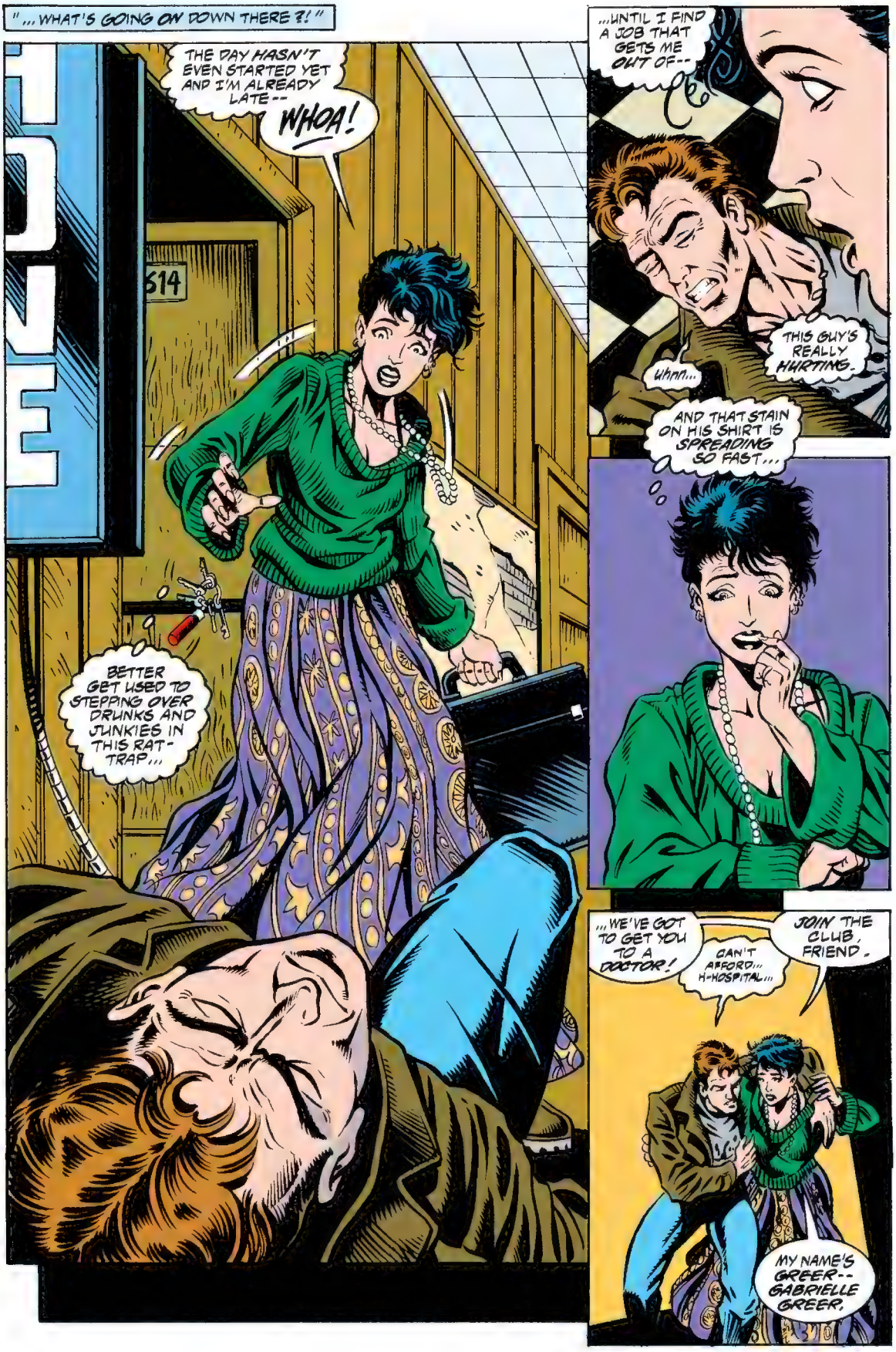
BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT **PETER PARKER** GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!

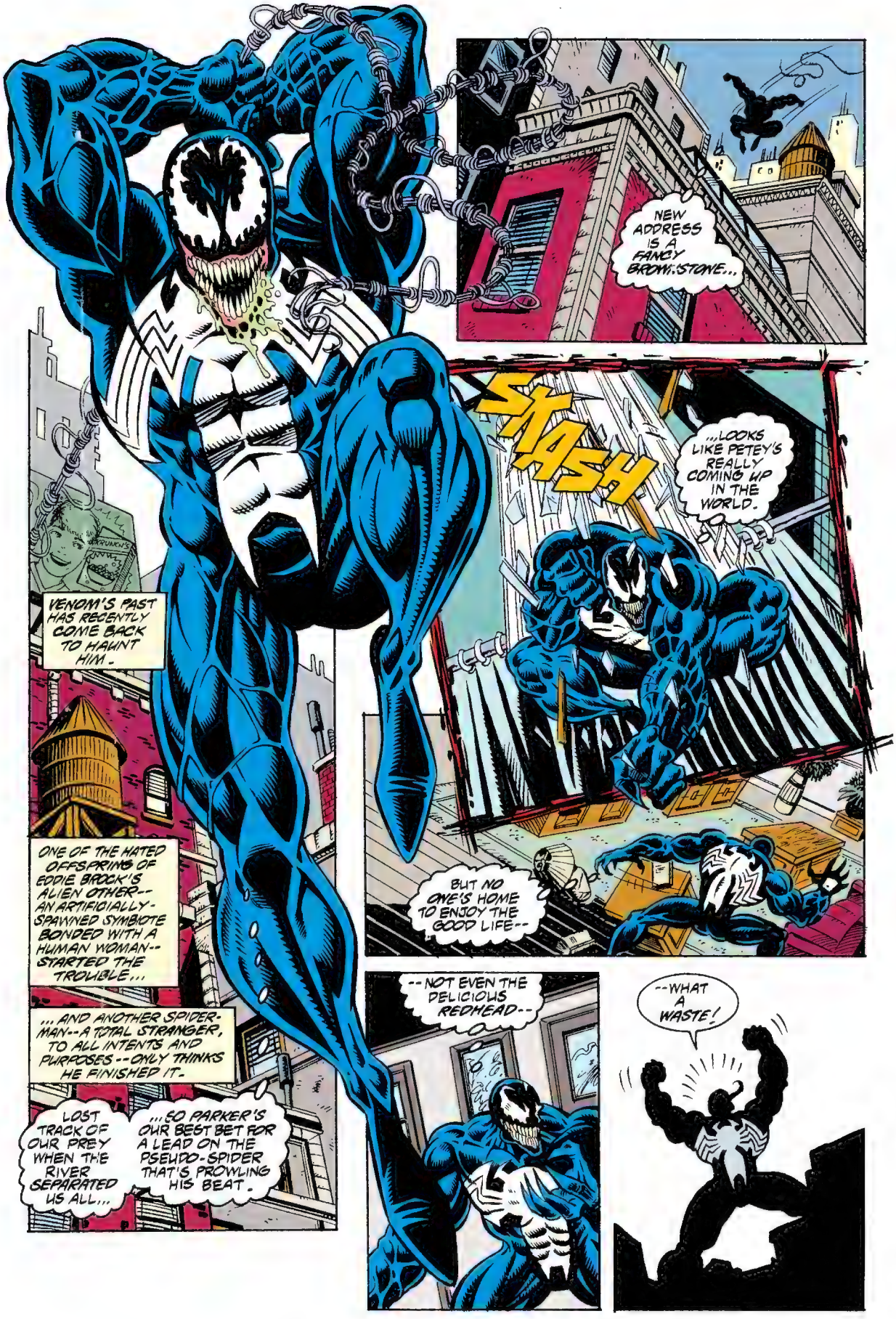
Stan Lee PRESENTS: WEB OF SPIDER-MAN™

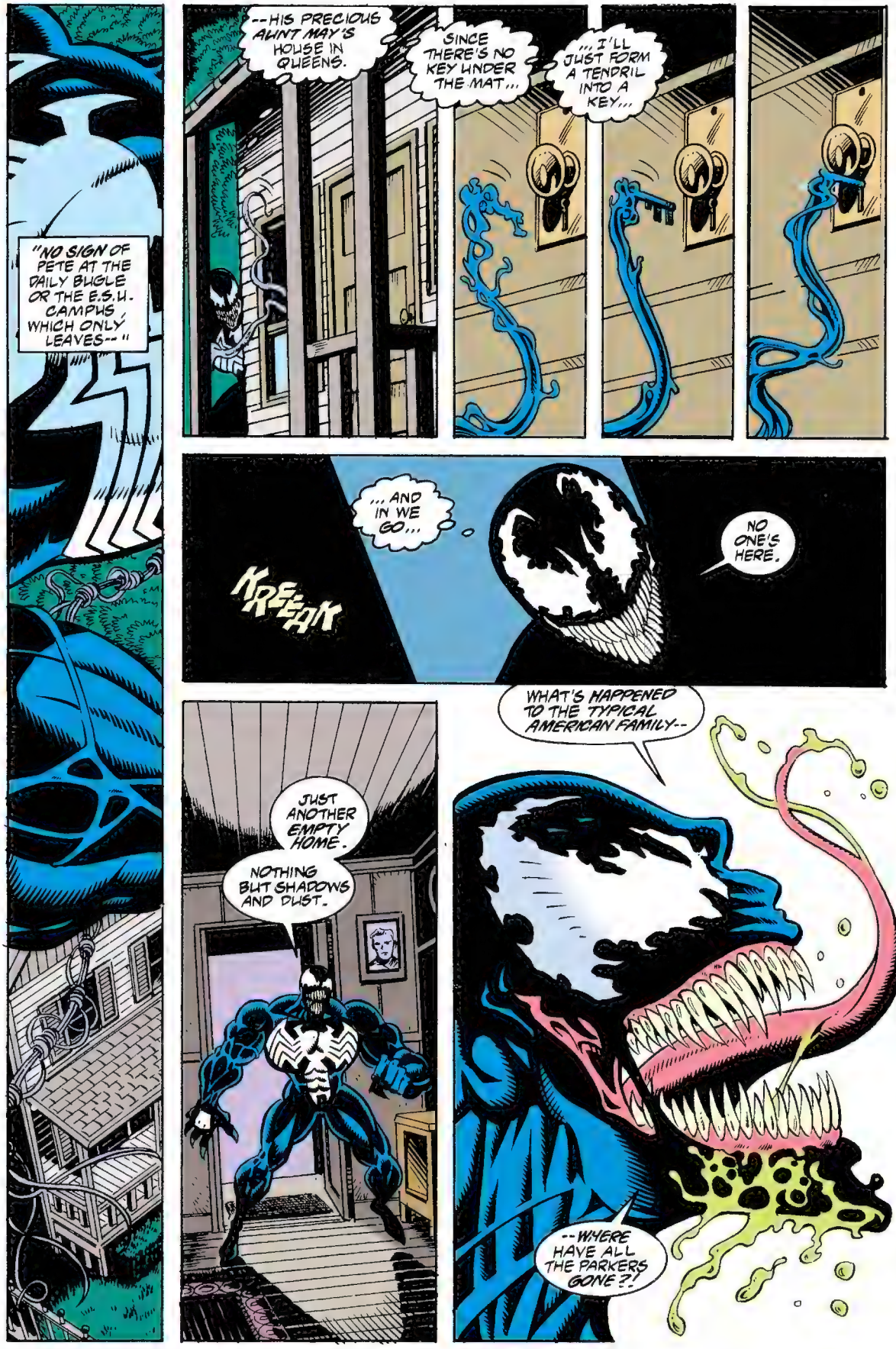
BEN REILLY'S RETURN TO NEW YORK WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE END.
THE IMPOSSIBLE SECRET BURIED SO DEEP, FOR SO LONG--HIS IDENTITY AS THE CLONE OF PETER PARKER, THE TRUE SPIDER-MAN--
--BUBBLES FAR TOO CLOSE TO THE SURFACE HERE.
BETWEEN THE CITY'S NEED FOR HEROES AND HIS INSTINCT FOR HEROICS, THE SCARLET SPIDER WAS BORN ON THESE ROOFTOPS...*
...AND THEY MAY JUST PROVE TO BE THE DEATH OF HIM.
THIS TOWN'S TEARING ME APART.
WEB-BANDAGE IS DISSOLVING ALREADY, BUT IT GOT ME HOME...
THE EXILE RETURNS
PART 3
ECHOES OF SILENCE
*WEB #118. --ERIC

TERRY KAVANAGH	STEVEN BUTLER	RANDY EMBERLIN	STEVE DITKO	KEVIN TINSLEY	ERIC FEIN	DANNY FINGEROTH	TOM DEFALCO
WRITER	BREAKDOWNS	FINISHES	LETTERS	COLORS	EDITOR	GROUP EDITOR	CHIEF

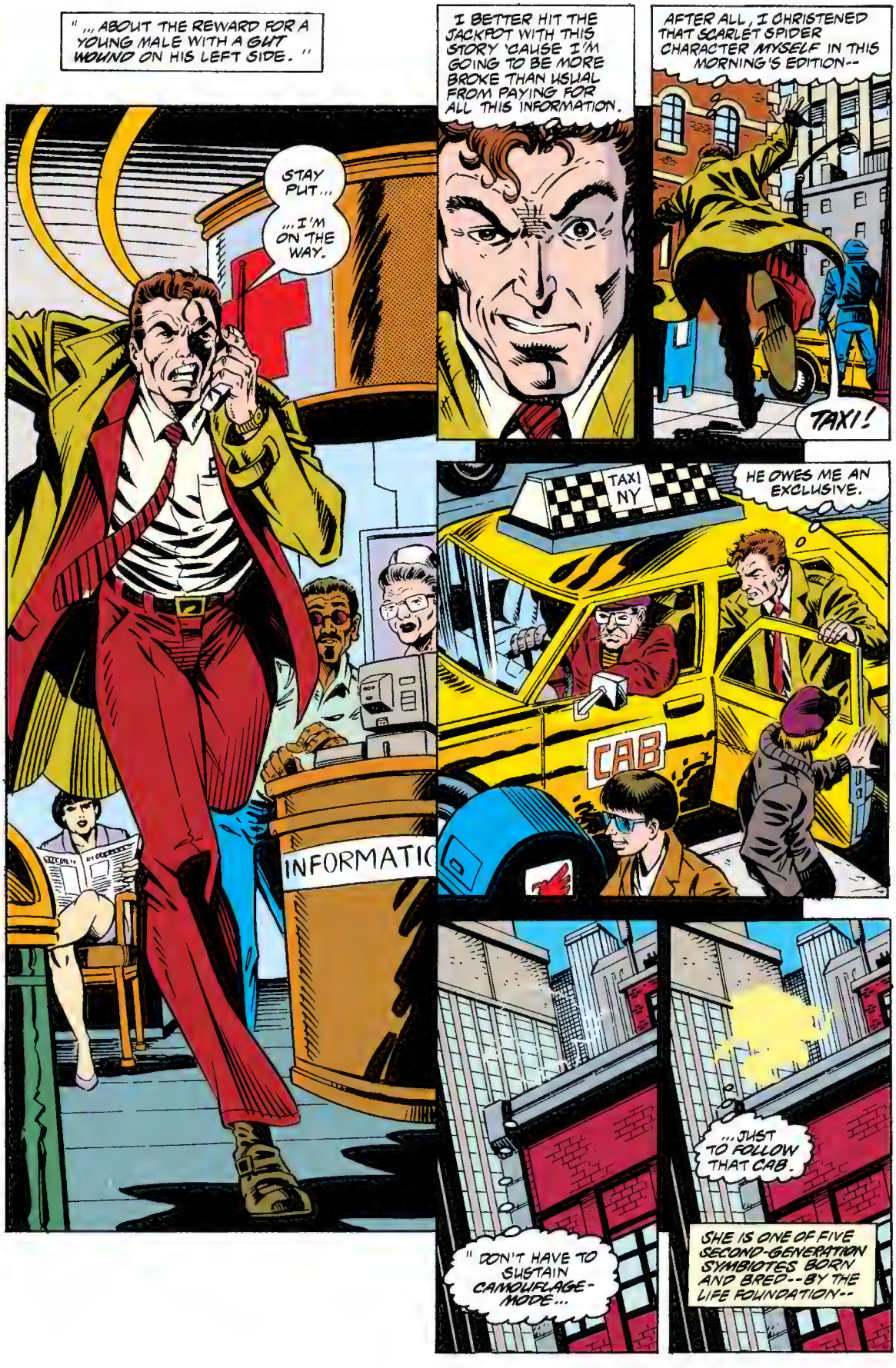

...SUCH AS IT IS THESE DAYS.
THE GASH VENOM GAVE ME HURTS...*
...BUT I'VE GROWN ACCUSTOMED TO PAIN.
THIS SHIRT WILL SERVE AS A TOURNIQUET--STAUNCH THE BLEEDING--UNTIL I CAN GET MEDICAL ATTENTION--
--AND EVERYTHING ELSE FITS IN THE PACK ON MY BACK.
*SPIDER-MAN #52. --ERIC
JUST NEED TO CALL AHEAD...
...LET DR. TRAINER KNOW I'M COMING--
PHONE
SEWARD?!
G-GOT TO GET OUT OF THE C-CITY--
--BEFORE IT KILLS ME...
REILLY? TALK TO ME, BEN...


"...WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE?!"
THE DAY HASN'T EVEN STARTED YET AND I'M ALREADY LATE--
WHOA!
614
BETTER GET USED TO STEPPING OVER DRUNKS AND JUNKIES IN THIS RAT-TRAP...
...UNTIL I FIND A JOB THAT GETS ME OUT OF--
Uhnn...
THIS GUY'S REALLY HURTING.
AND THAT STAIN ON HIS SHIRT IS SPREADING SO FAST...
...WE'VE GOT TO GET YOU TO A DOCTOR!
CAN'T AFFORD... H-HOSPITAL...
JOIN THE CLUB, FRIEND.
MY NAME'S GREER-- GABRIELLE GREER.


NEW ADDRESS IS A FANCY BROWNSTONE...
SMASH
...LOOKS LIKE PETEY'S REALLY COMING UP IN THE WORLD.
BUT NO ONE'S HOME TO ENJOY THE GOOD LIFE--
VENOM'S PAST HAS RECENTLY COME BACK TO HAUNT HIM.
ONE OF THE HATED OFFSPRING OF EDDIE BROCK'S ALIEN OTHER--AN ARTIFICIALLY-SPAWNED SYMBIOTE BONDED WITH A HUMAN WOMAN--STARTED THE TROUBLE...
...AND ANOTHER SPIDER-MAN--A TOTAL STRANGER, TO ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES--ONLY THINKS HE FINISHED IT.
LOST TRACK OF OUR PREY WHEN THE RIVER SEPARATED US ALL...
...SO PARKER'S OUR BEST BET FOR A LEAD ON THE PSEUDO-SPIDER THAT'S PROWLING HIS BEAT.
--NOT EVEN THE DELICIOUS REDHEAD--
--WHAT A WASTE!

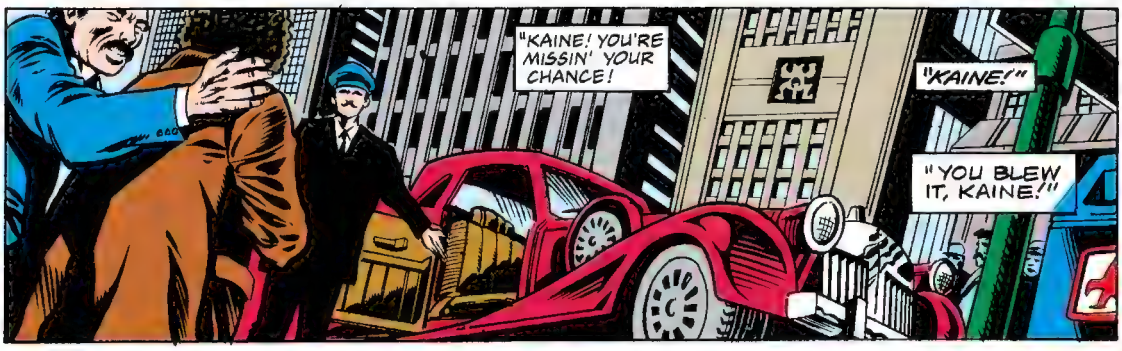

"NO SIGN OF PETE AT THE DAILY BUGLE OR THE E.S.U. CAMPUS, WHICH ONLY LEAVES--"
--HIS PRECIOUS AUNT MAY'S HOUSE IN QUEENS.
SINCE THERE'S NO KEY UNDER THE MAT...
...I'LL JUST FORM A TENDRIL INTO A KEY...
...AND IN WE GO...
KREEAK
NO ONE'S HERE.
JUST ANOTHER EMPTY HOME.
NOTHING BUT SHADOWS AND DUST.
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE TYPICAL AMERICAN FAMILY--
--WHERE HAVE ALL THE PARKERS GONE?!

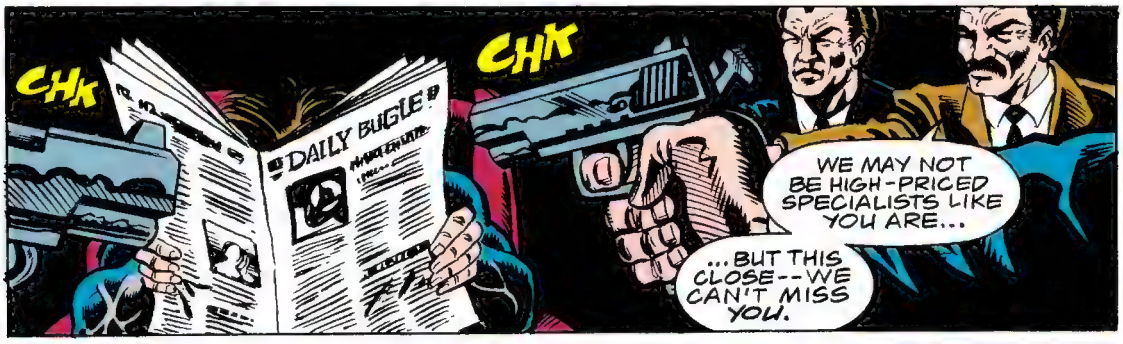
"THIS IS THE ONLY CLINIC IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD THAT WOULD TREAT YOU WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE, BEN..."
...YOU'VE GOT TO TRUST THE DOCTOR.
NO ANESTHESIA... GREER...
FOUR MORE STITCHES TO GO, SON.
CLINIC
124 SAINT
WHATEVER IT TAKES, DOC...
...TO GET ME OUT OF HERE... BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE...
IS THIS KEN ELLIS?
THE BUGLE FORWARDED MY CALL TO YOU...


"...ABOUT THE REWARD FOR A YOUNG MALE WITH A GUT WOUND ON HIS LEFT SIDE."
STAY PUT...
...I'M ON THE WAY.
INFORMATIC
I BETTER HIT THE JACKPOT WITH THIS STORY 'CAUSE I'M GOING TO BE MORE BROKE THAN USUAL FROM PAYING FOR ALL THIS INFORMATION.
AFTER ALL, I CHRISTENED THAT SCARLET SPIDER CHARACTER MYSELF IN THIS MORNING'S EDITION--
TAXI!
TAXI NY
CAB
HE OWES ME AN EXCLUSIVE.
"DON'T HAVE TO SUSTAIN CAMOUFLAGE-MODE...
...JUST TO FOLLOW THAT CAB.
SHE IS ONE OF FIVE SECOND-GENERATION SYMBIOTES BORN AND BRED--BY THE LIFE FOUNDATION--

--TO KILL.
SHE FEARS IT'S A LOSING BATTLE...
I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S A BLESSING OR A CURSE MY SYMBIOTE REGEN-ERATED...!*
*AFTER VENOM: LETHAL PROTECTOR #6.--Eric
GETS MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT TO CONTROL MY OTHER--TO IGNORE ITS WHISPERED OFFERS AND SEDUCTIVE CARESSES--WITH EVERY HOUR.
VENOM ONLY MADE THINGS WORSE.
BUT I STILL CAN'T HELP BELIEVING--
ALTHOUGH FREE OF THE CORPORATE SURVIVALIST GROUP FOR MONTHS ALREADY...
...THE WOMAN BENEATH THE LIVING COSTUME IS ALL BUT NAMELESS NOW, BARELY STRUGGLING TO MAINTAIN SOME SENSE OF SELF.
--HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HELP ME...
...AND SAVE MY SOUL.
"AND ELLIS' INVESTIGATION IS BOUND TO POINT STRAIGHT TO THE SPIDER!
WHICH IN TURN, WILL BRING ME BACK INTO CONTACT WITH VENOM.

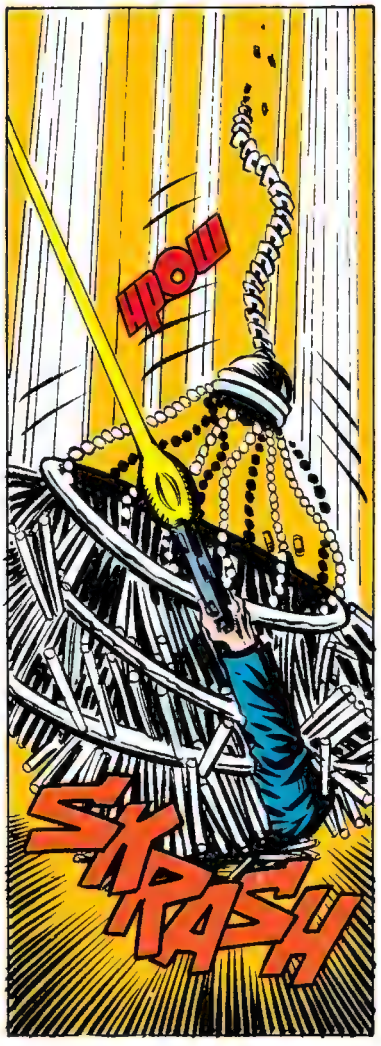
MIDTOWN.
PAPA GRANITE'S ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN BRANCHING OUT INTO NEW TERRITORY LATELY--OUR TERRITORY--
--CROSSING BOUNDARIES MARKED BY BLOOD.
MY PEOPLE WANT HIS PEOPLE OUT OF THE WAY, ASSASSIN...
"...BUT GRANITE HIMSELF ONLY LEAVES HIS JERSEY FORTRESS ONCE A YEAR FOR THIS ANNIVERSARY NIGHT OUT WITH THE OLD LADY.
"THEY RESERVE THE PLACE FOR THEMSELVES. PACK IT WITH BODYGUARDS. SIT BEHIND THE BULLETPROOF GLASS.
"WE NEED A SPECIALIST TO GET CLOSE TO HIM.
"WORD HAS REACHED US THAT YOU ARE SUCH A SPECIALIST, KAINE.
"ACCOMPLISH THIS TASK FOR US AND YOU MAY HAVE A FUTURE WITH OUR FAMILY.
"IT'S TIME TO MAKE YOUR MOVE.
YOU LISTENING TO ME, KAINE?
DAILY BUGLE
PUT DOWN THE PAPER AND DO YOUR JOB, FREAK!


"KAINE! YOU'RE MISSIN' YOUR CHANCE!
"KAINE!"
"YOU BLEW IT, KAINE!"

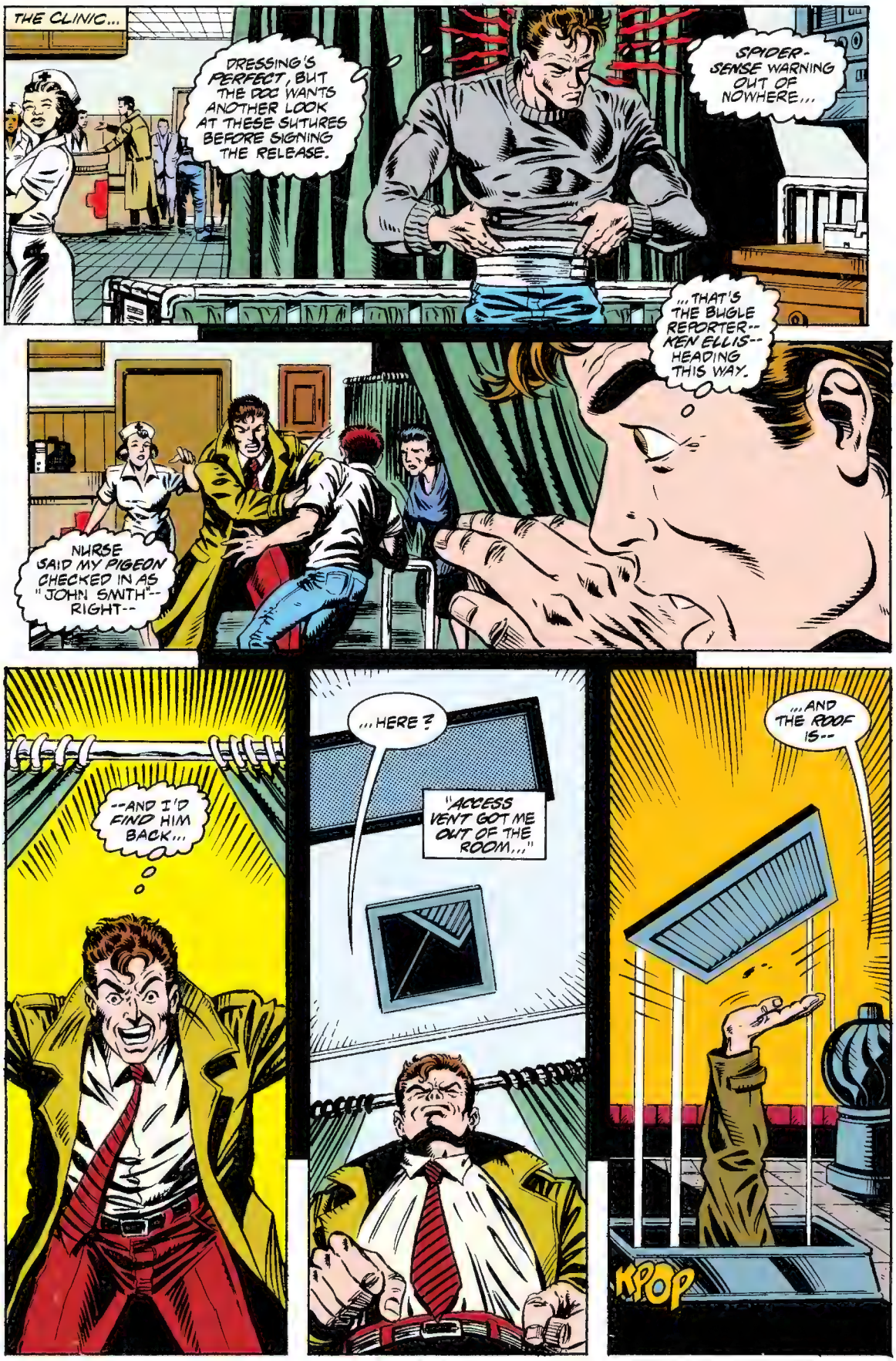

CHK
CHK
DAILY BUGLE
WE MAY NOT BE HIGH-PRICED SPECIALISTS LIKE YOU ARE...
...BUT THIS CLOSE--WE CAN'T MISS YOU.

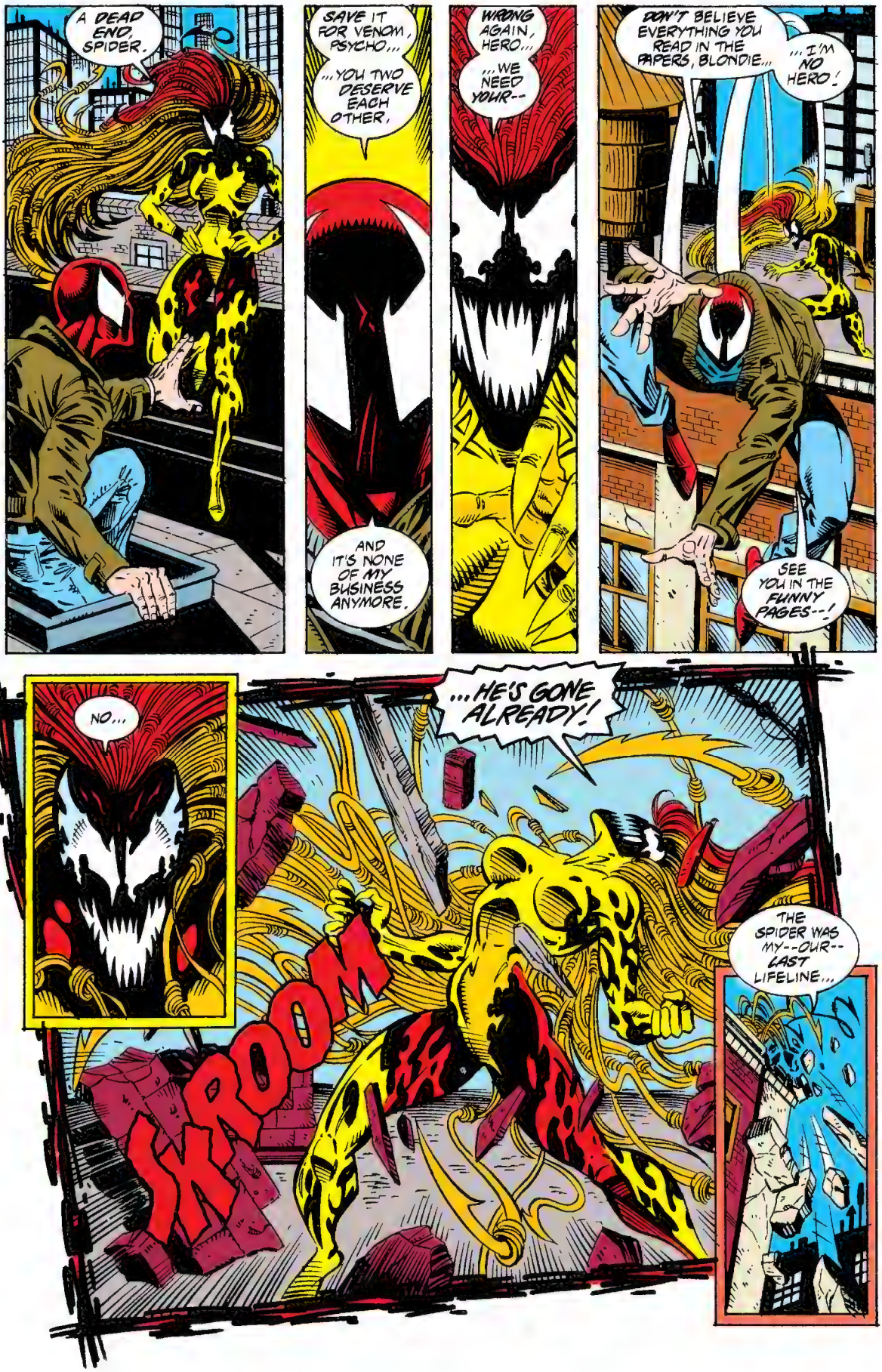
SPIDER JER-MAN?
BY KEN ELLIS
UNFORTUNATELY, GENTLEMEN...

SHK

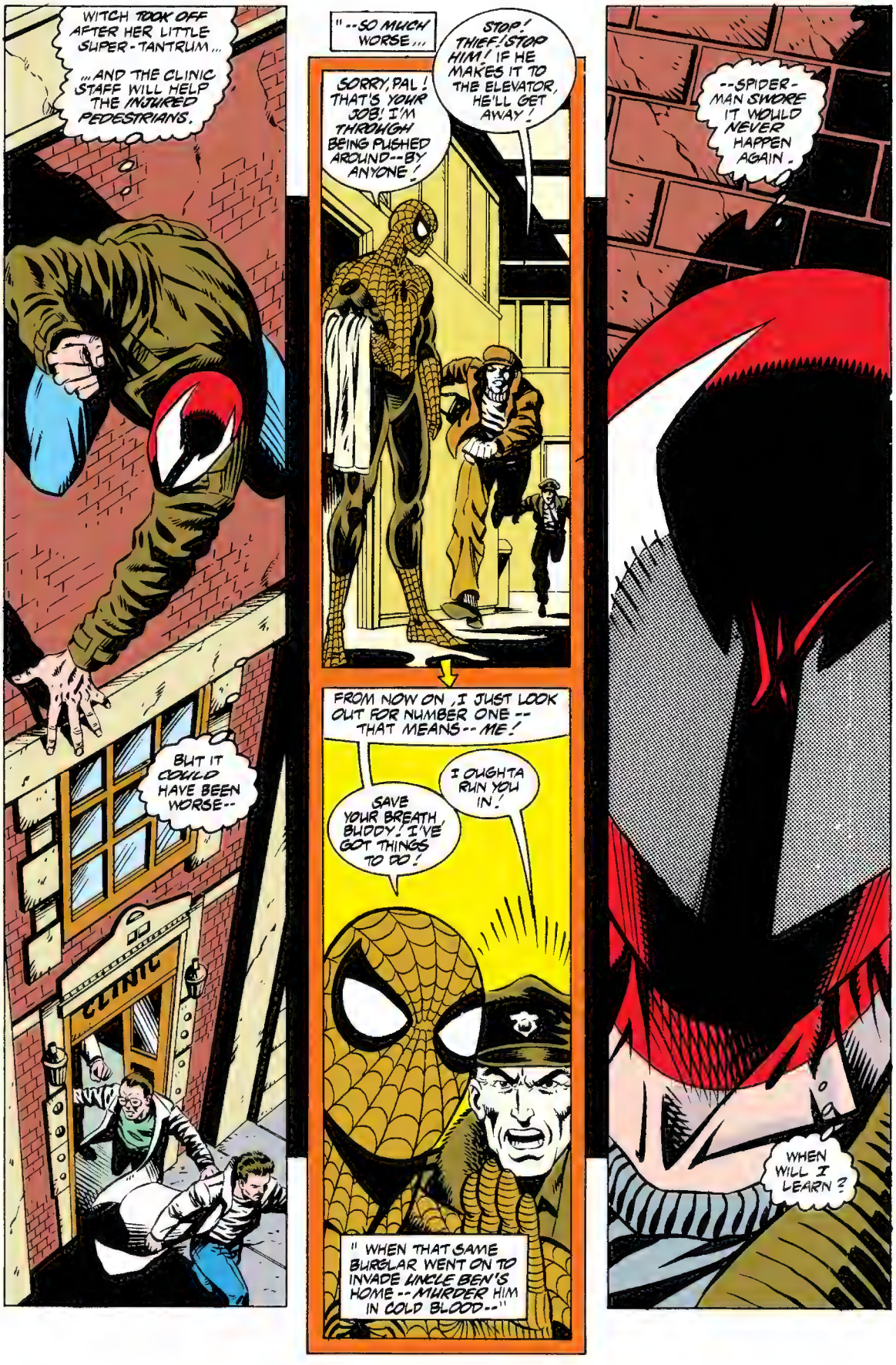

WOW
SKRASH

SHK
SHK
KRAK
...SOMETHING ELSE HAS COME UP.
DAILY BUGLE
IS THE SCARLET SPIDER
NNECTED TO SPIDER-MAN?
BY KEN ELLIS


THE CLINIC...
DRESSING'S PERFECT, BUT THE DOC WANTS ANOTHER LOOK AT THESE SUTURES BEFORE SIGNING THE RELEASE.
SPIDER-SENSE WARNING OUT OF NOWHERE...
...THAT'S THE BUGLE REPORTER--KEN ELLIS--HEADING THIS WAY.
NURSE SAID MY PIGEON CHECKED IN AS "JOHN SMITH"--RIGHT--
--AND I'D FIND HIM BACK...
...HERE?
"ACCESS VENT GOT ME OUT OF THE ROOM..."
...AND THE ROOF IS--
KPOP


A DEAD END, SPIDER.
SAVE IT FOR VENOM, PSYCHO...
...YOU TWO DESERVE EACH OTHER.
AND IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS ANYMORE.
WRONG AGAIN, HERO...
...WE NEED YOUR--
DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU READ IN THE PAPERS, BLONDIE...
...I'M NO HERO!
SEE YOU IN THE FUNNY PAGES--!
NO...
...HE'S GONE ALREADY!
THE SPIDER WAS MY--OUR-- LAST LIFELINE...
KROOM

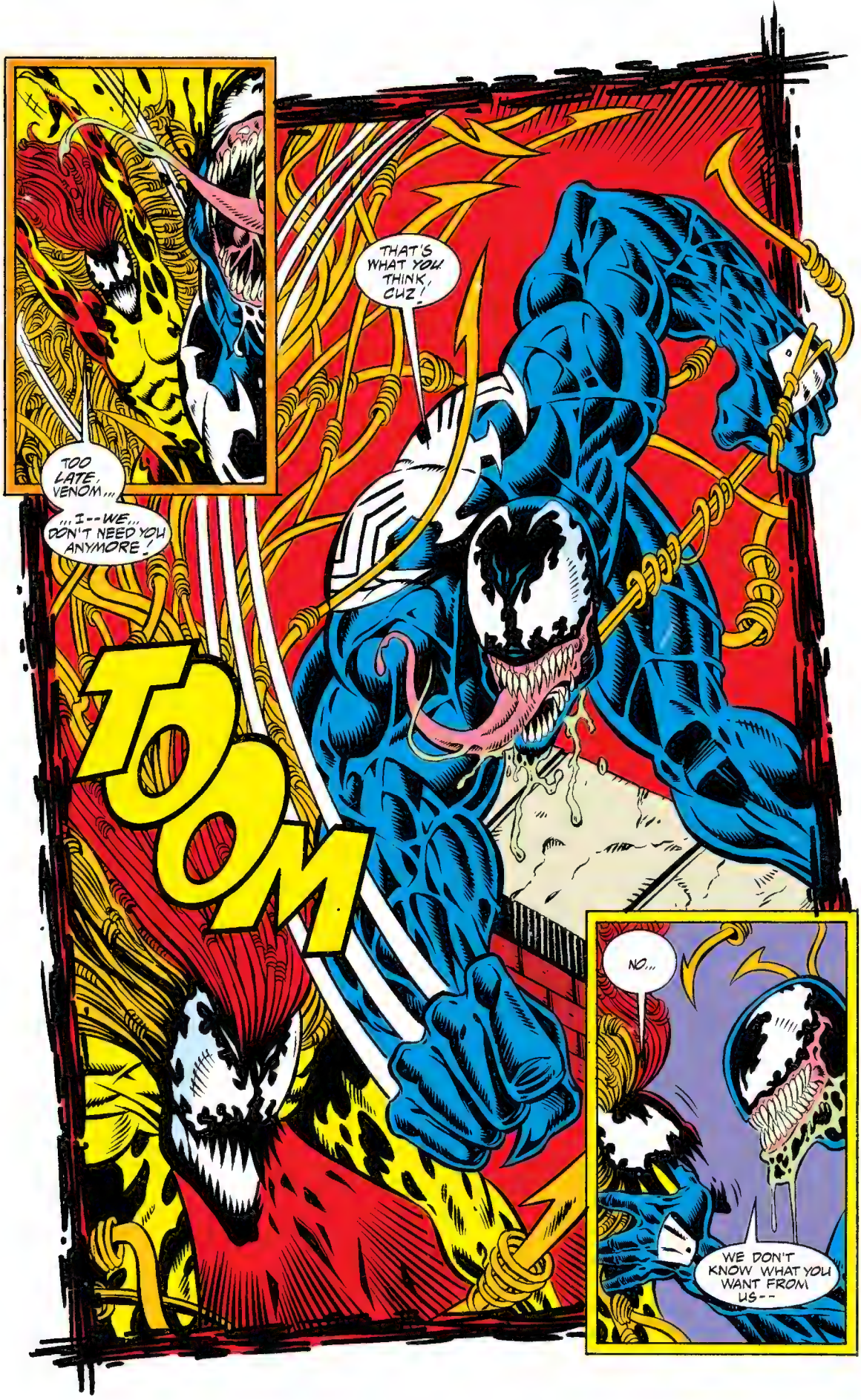
"...WE'RE OUT OF CONTROL!"
THOUGHT I COULD AVOID TROUBLE--FOR EVERYONE AROUND ME--BY HIDING OUT UNDER THE LEDGE BENEATH HER FEET...
...UNTIL SHE GOT BORED AND WENT HOME.
BAD IDEA. SHE'S GONE CRAZY; SMASHING UP EVERYTHING IN HER PATH.
POOM
POOM
POOM
POOM
I'M DOING MY BEST TO PULVERIZE MOST OF THE DEBRIS BEFORE IT REACHES THE GROUND--
POOM
"--BUT SOME OF IT'S GETTING THROUGH."
uhnnn...
KRAK


WITCH TOOK OFF AFTER HER LITTLE SUPER-TANTRUM...
...AND THE CLINIC STAFF WILL HELP THE INJURED PEDESTRIANS.
BUT IT COULD HAVE BEEN WORSE--
CLINIC
"--SO MUCH WORSE...
STOP! THIEF! STOP HIM! IF HE MAKES IT TO THE ELEVATOR, HE'LL GET AWAY!
SORRY, PAL! THAT'S YOUR JOB! I'M THROUGH BEING PUSHED AROUND--BY ANYONE!
FROM NOW ON, I JUST LOOK OUT FOR NUMBER ONE-- THAT MEANS--ME!
I OUGHTA RUN YOU IN!
SAVE YOUR BREATH, BUDDY! I'VE GOT THINGS TO DO!
" WHEN THAT SAME BURGLAR WENT ON TO INVADE UNCLE BEN'S HOME--MURDER HIM IN COLD BLOOD--"
--SPIDER-MAN SWORE IT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN.
WHEN WILL I LEARN?

SHOULD HAVE STOPPED THE FEMALE SYMBIOTE WHEN I COULD...
...JUST SHEER LUCK THAT NO INNOCENTS WERE KILLED.
OR AN OMEN.
MAYBE EVEN A SECOND CHANCE... TO CORRECT A MISTAKE I NEVER MADE--
BEN...?
IT'S ME-- GABRIELLE--
--CHECKING UP ON THE PATIENT.
KNK KNK
APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN, GREER--REALLY-- AND ALL THE HELP EARLIER...
...BUT I'M SORT OF IN THE MIDDLE OF SOMETHING RIGHT NOW.
SORRY...

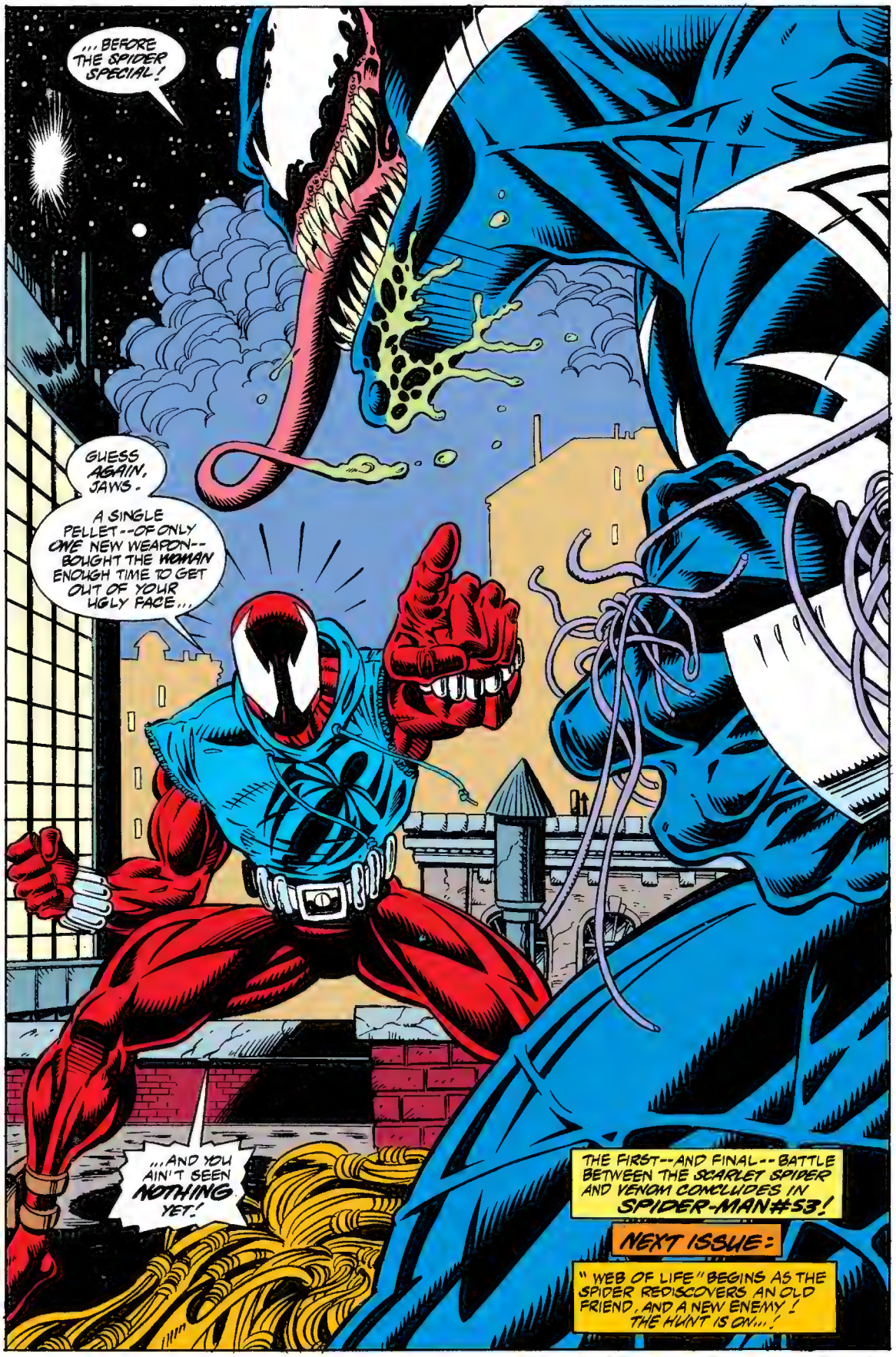
"... MY MISTAKE."
AND MY LOSS.
AGAIN.
ALL THE TIME OVER THE YEARS, IDEAS FOR THINGS LIKE THIS ITEM WERE PERCOLATING IN MY MIND--
--ALMOST AS IF I KNEW THIS DAY WOULD COME.
SEEMS I WAS WOEFULLY UNPREPARED FOR VENOM AND HIS ILK LAST TIME OUT...
...BUT NOW I'M READY, WILLING--AND MORE THAN ABLE--TO FACE THE WORST.
I'LL TAKE DOWN EVERY SYMBIOTE IN THIS CITY BEFORE LEAVING...

"... WITH NO DEATHS ON MY CONSCIENCE."
PEPZI
RAW POWER FOR POWER'S SAKE-- NOTHING MORE, NOTHING LESS--
--THIS IS ALL MY OTHER EVER PROMISED!
AND WHERE BETTER TO INDULGE UNLEASHED PASSIONS THAN THE HEART OF TIMES SQUARE?!
SKREAK
HOW ABOUT THE PRIVACY OF YOUR OWN PADDED CELL, SISTER?!
AARGH!


TOO LATE, VENOM...
...I--WE... DON'T NEED YOU ANYMORE!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, CUZ!
TOOM
NO...
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WANT FROM US--

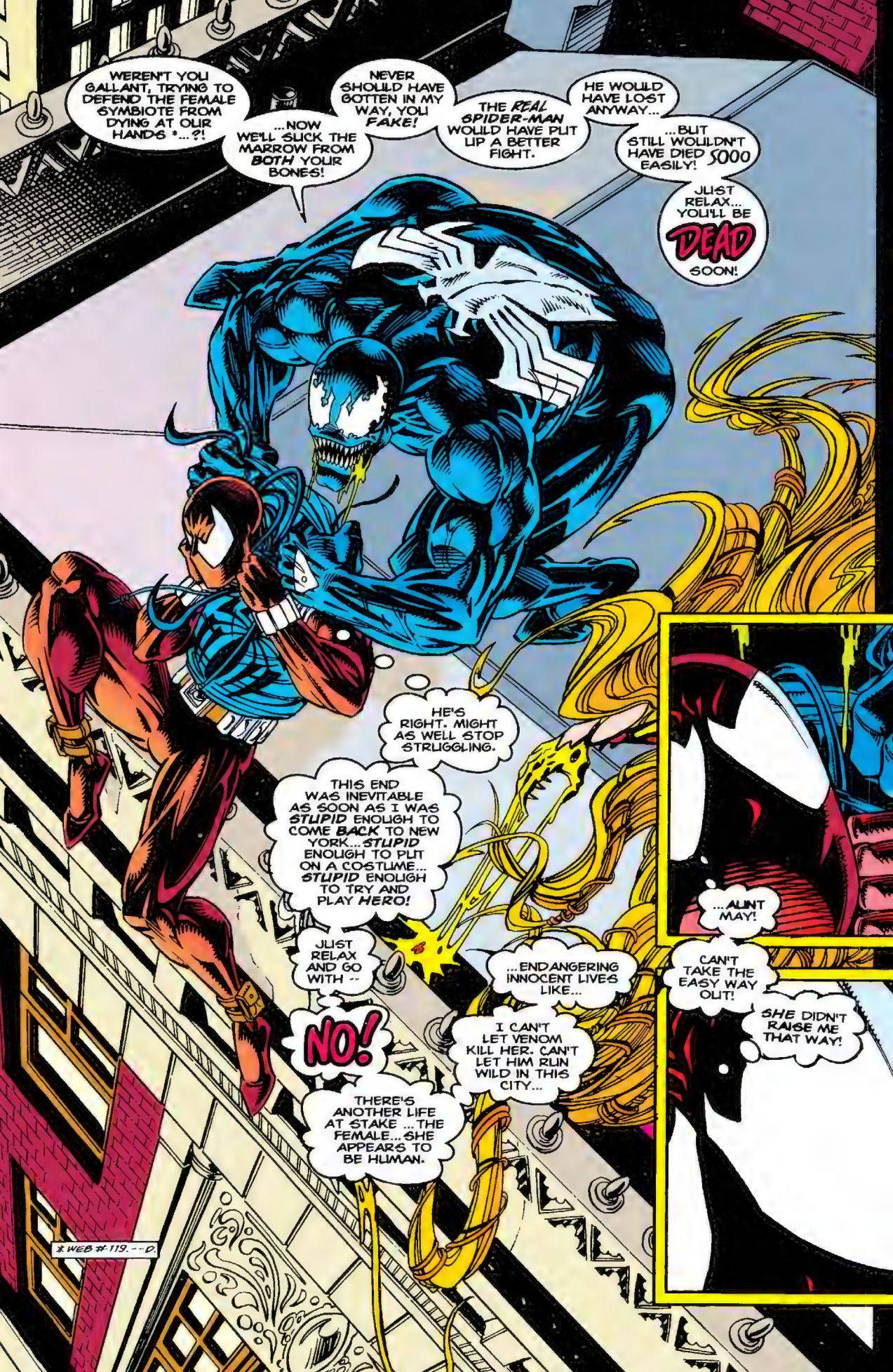
--AND WE DON'T CARE!
WE'RE GOING TO SEPARATE YOU AND YOUR SYMBIOTE! AND THEN DEAL WITH YOU BOTH!
GRABH!
SHRK
WE'RE SICK TO DEATH OF SPIDERS AND SYMBIOTES OF ALL SHAPES AND SIZES...
...THREATENING THE VERY IDENTITY WE FOUGHT SO LONG AND HARD TO MAKE OUR OWN!

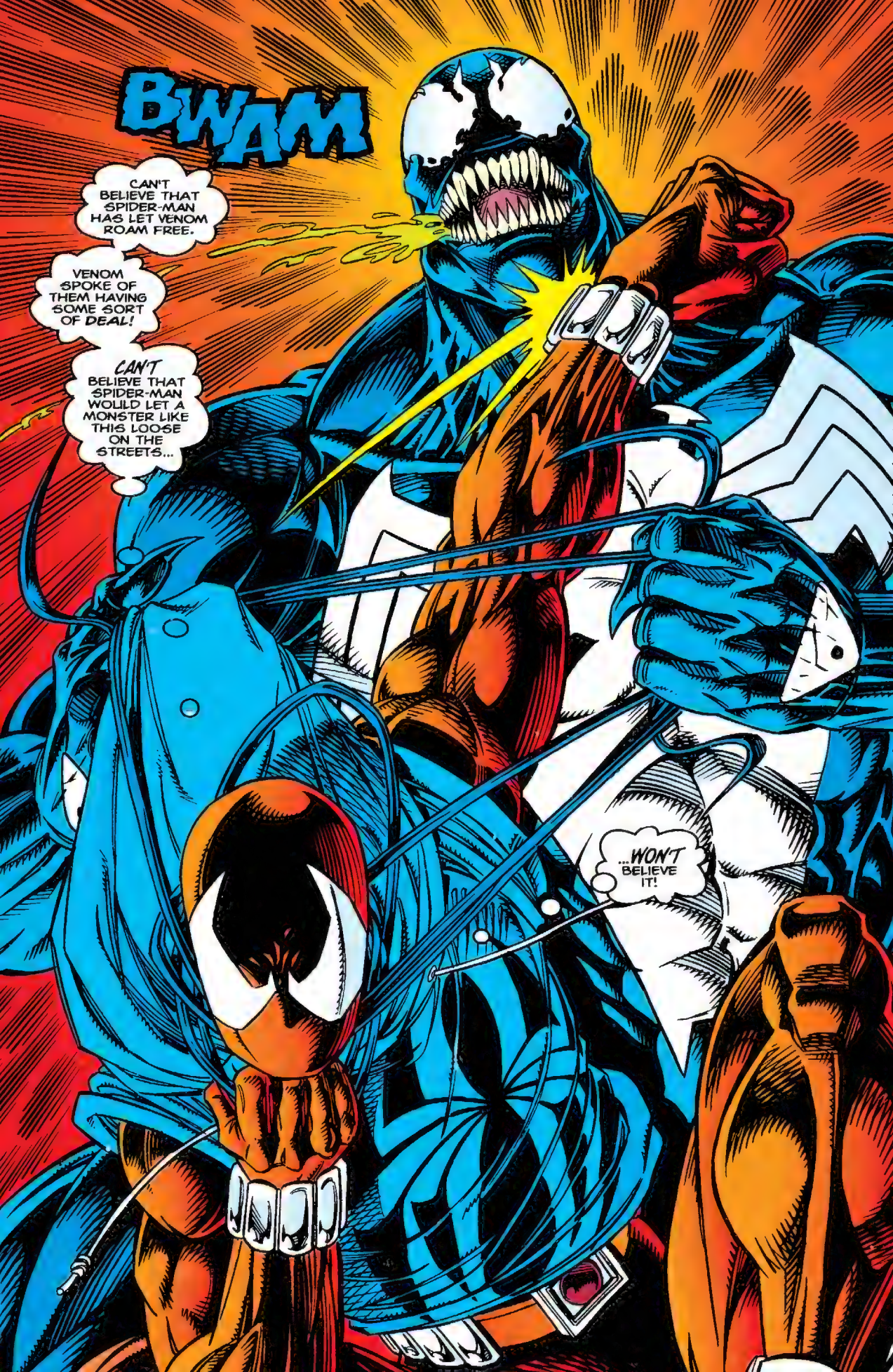
please...
DON'T BEG, SPAWN O'MINE...
...IT REFLECTS BADLY ON ALL OF U--
THWP
RADIO REPORTS SAID I'D FIND YOU TWO HERE.
WHAT THE H--?!
THWPH
THWPH
THWPH
I CALL IT IMPACT WEBBING, YENOM.
GENERATING ENOUGH MULTI-TENDRILS--IN MICRO-SECONDS--
--TO CUT YOU OFF FROM YOUR VICTIM!
JUST TASTES LIKE APPETIZER TO ME, HERO...
SHRRP

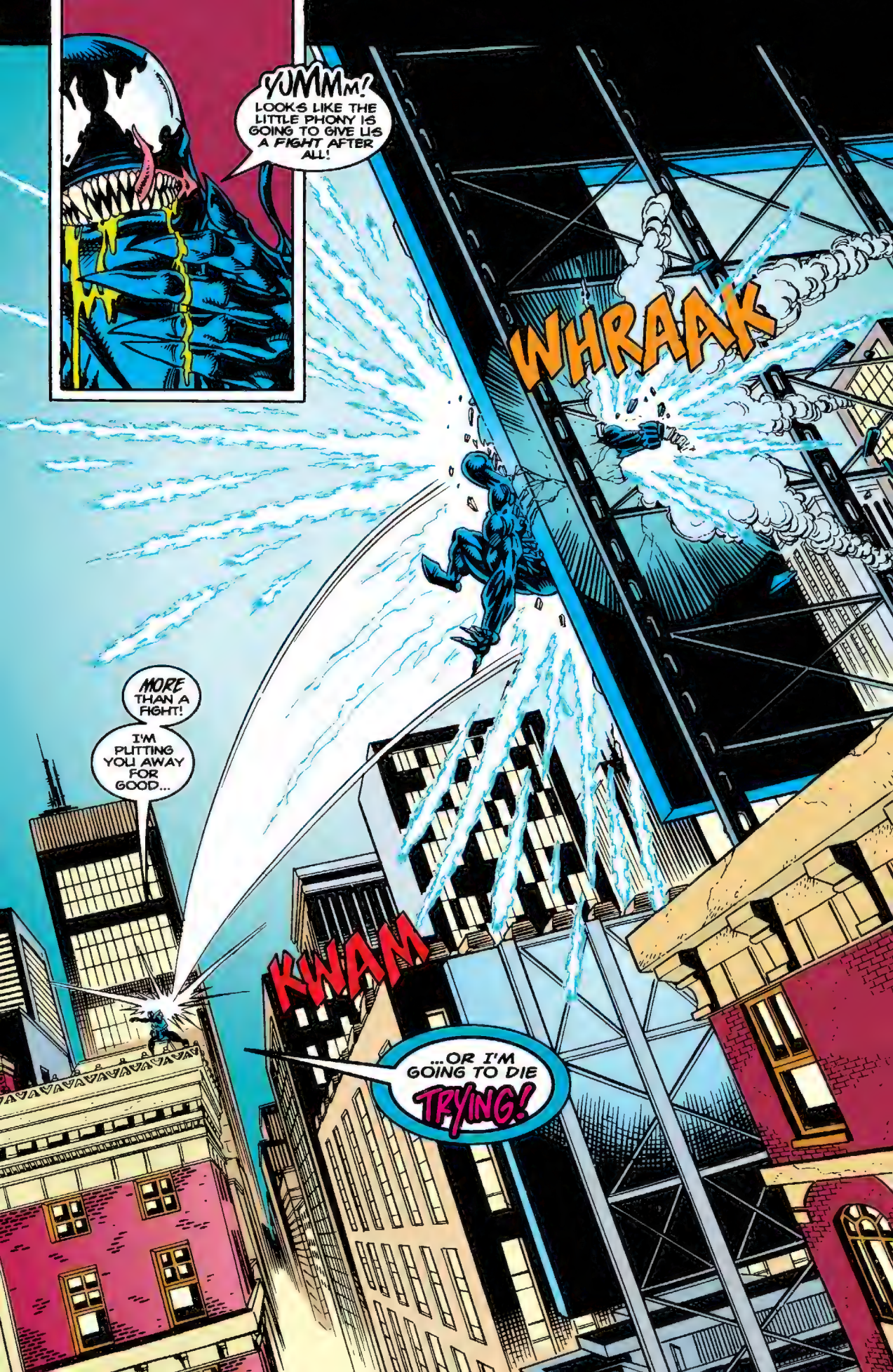

...BEFORE THE SPIDER SPECIAL!
GUESS AGAIN, JAWS.
A SINGLE PELLET--OF ONLY ONE NEW WEAPON--BOUGHT THE HUMAN ENOUGH TIME TO GET OUT OF YOUR UGLY FACE...
...AND YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHING YET!
THE FIRST--AND FINAL--BATTLE BETWEEN THE SCARLET SPIDER AND VENOM CONCLUDES IN SPIDER-MAN#53!
NEXT ISSUE:
"WEB OF LIFE" BEGINS AS THE SPIDER REDISCOVERS AN OLD FRIEND, AND A NEW ENEMY! THE HUNT IS ON...!

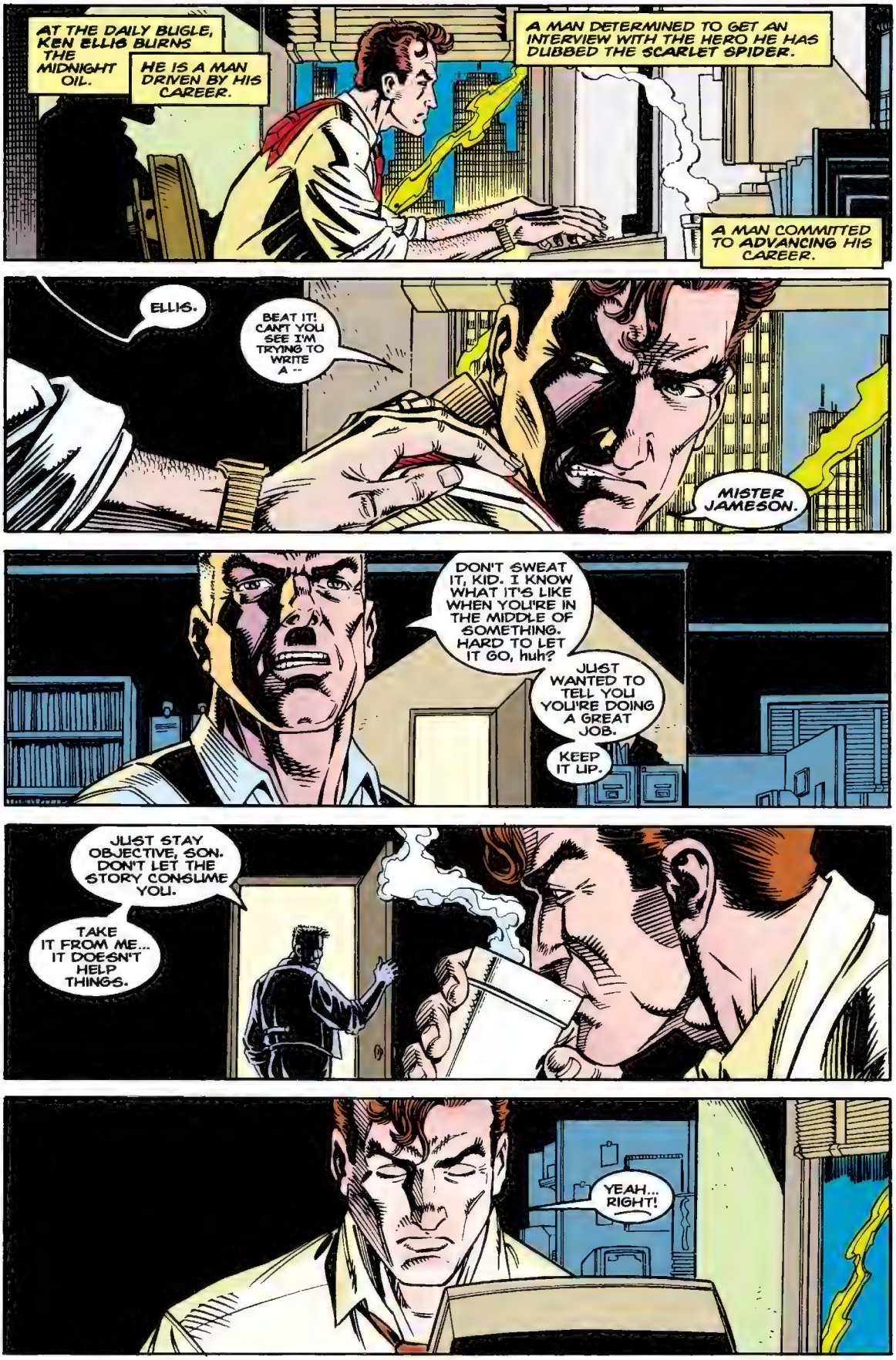
MARVEL COMICS
SPIDER-MAN
53
DEC
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THE EXILE RETURNS PART 4 OF 4
THE SCARLET SPIDER'S GREATEST MOMENT OF GLORY...
THE FALL OF VENOM!

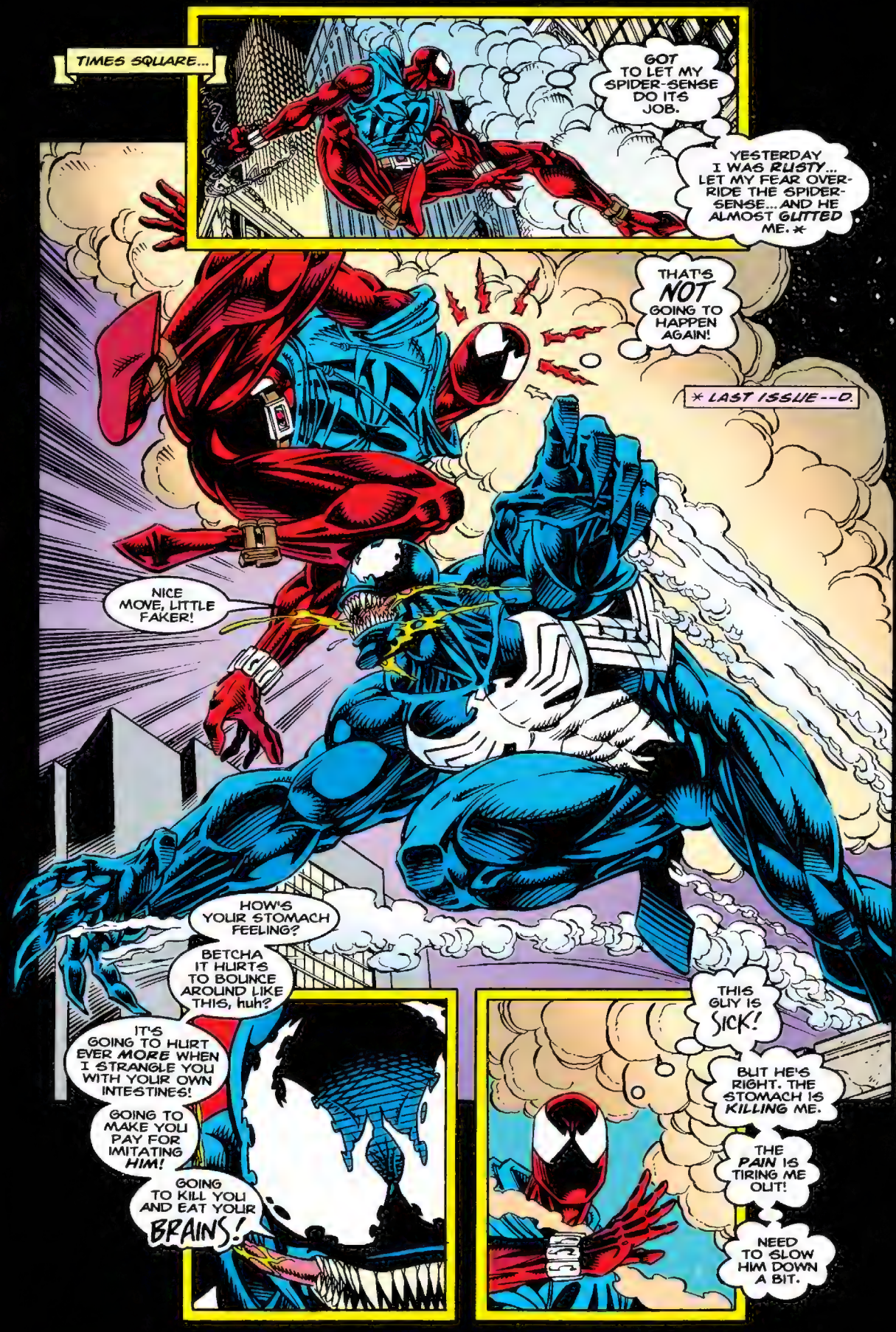
STAN LEE PRESENTS THE SCARLET SPIDER IN
GATHERING STORMS
NEW YORK CITY...
THIRTY SECONDS AGO, THE MAN WHO HAS BEEN DUBBED THE SCARLET SPIDER BELIEVED HIS RAGE WOULD BE ENOUGH TO ENABLE HIM TO BEAT VENOM.*
NOW HE REALIZES THAT THAT WASN'T NECESSARILY TRUE.
DIE, IMPOSTOR!
SO THIS IS HOW MY RETURN TO MANHATTAN... TO A LIFE THAT NEVER BELONGED TO ME... ENDS?
STRANGLED TO DEATH WITH THE HOOD OF MY OWN NEWLY CREATED COSTUME?
GUESS I DESERVE IT.
I'M ONLY A CLONE!
*WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #119.--DANNY
THE AWESOME CONCLUSION TO THE EXILE RETURNS
HOWARD MACKIE & TOM LYLE story & art
SCOTT HANNA finishes
STARKINGS/COMICRAFT lettering
KEVIN TINSLEY colors
DANNY FINGEROTH editor
TOM DEFALCO editor in chief

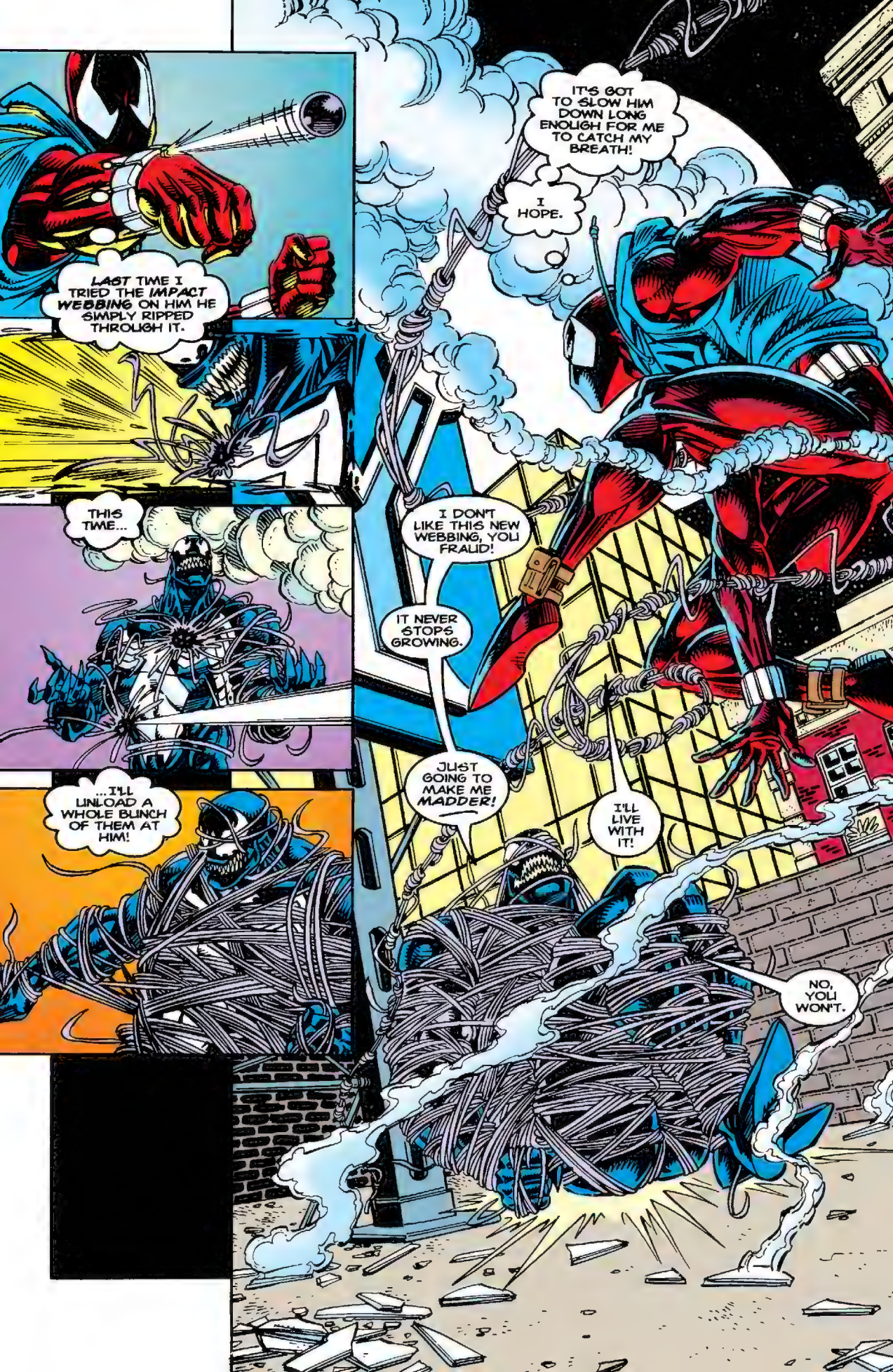

WEREN'T YOU GALLANT, TRYING TO DEFEND THE FEMALE SYMBIOTE FROM DYING AT OUR HANDS *...?!
...NOW WE'LL SUCK THE MARROW FROM BOTH YOUR BONES!
NEVER SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN IN MY WAY, YOU FAKE!
THE REAL SPIDER-MAN WOULD HAVE PUT UP A BETTER FIGHT.
HE WOULD HAVE LOST ANYWAY...
...BUT STILL WOULDN'T HAVE DIED SOOO EASILY!
JUST RELAX... YOU'LL BE DEAD SOON!
HE'S RIGHT. MIGHT AS WELL STOP STRUGGLING.
THIS END WAS INEVITABLE AS SOON AS I WAS STUPID ENOUGH TO COME BACK TO NEW YORK... STUPID ENOUGH TO PUT ON A COSTUME... STUPID ENOUGH TO TRY AND PLAY HERO!
JUST RELAX AND GO WITH --
NO!
...ENDANGERING INNOCENT LIVES LIKE...
I CAN'T LET VENOM KILL HER. CAN'T LET HIM RUN WILD IN THIS CITY...
THERE'S ANOTHER LIFE AT STAKE ...THE FEMALE... SHE APPEARS TO BE HUMAN.
...AUNT MAY!
CAN'T TAKE THE EASY WAY OUT!
SHE DIDN'T RAISE ME THAT WAY!
X-WEB #119. --D.


BWAM
CAN'T BELIEVE THAT SPIDER-MAN HAS LET VENOM ROAM FREE.
VENOM SPOKE OF THEM HAVING SOME SORT OF DEAL!
CAN'T BELIEVE THAT SPIDER-MAN WOULD LET A MONSTER LIKE THIS LOOSE ON THE STREETS...
...WON'T BELIEVE IT!

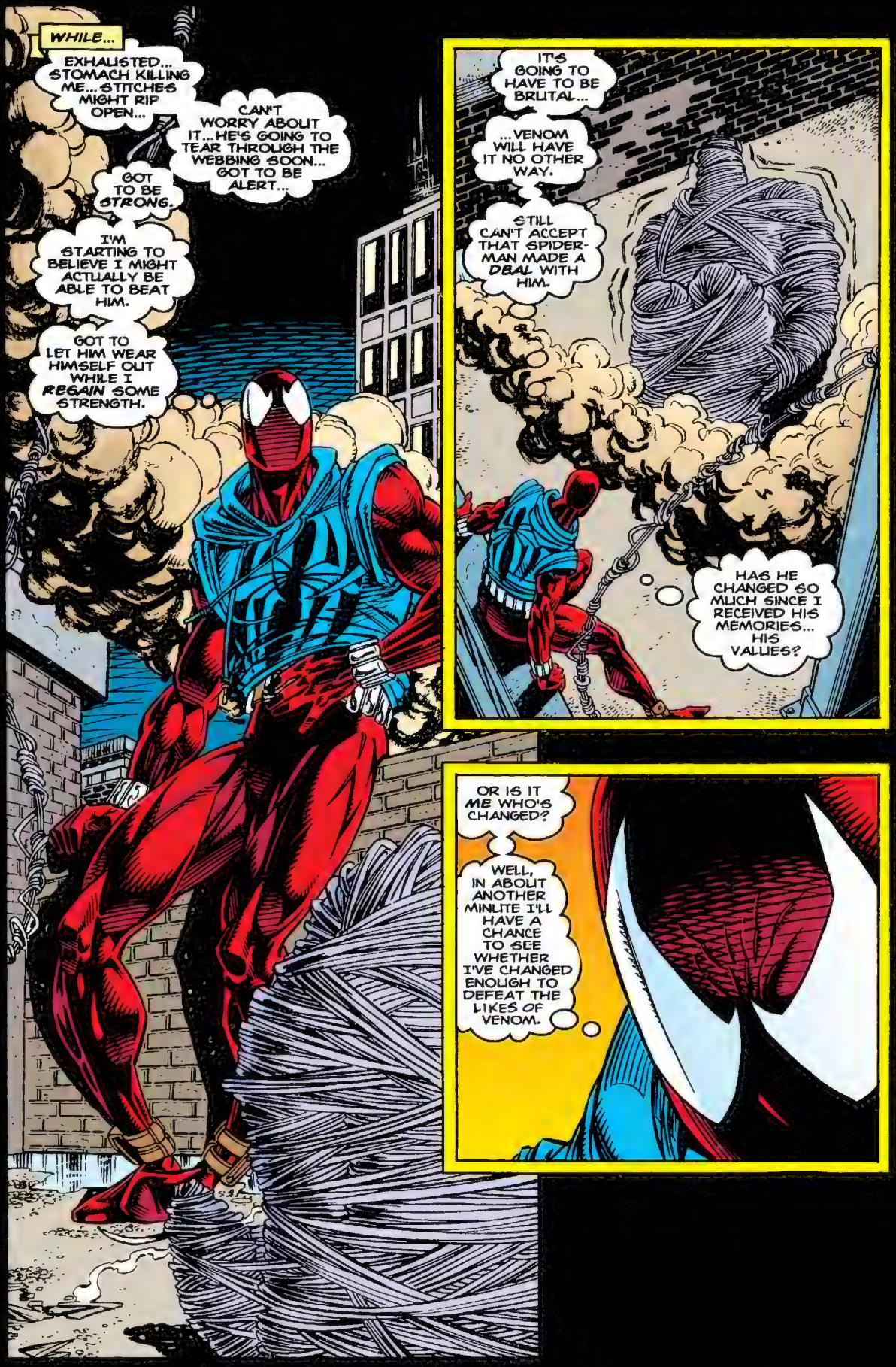

YUMMm!
LOOKS LIKE THE LITTLE PHONY IS GOING TO GIVE US A FIGHT AFTER ALL!
WHRAAK
MORE THAN A FIGHT!
I'M PUTTING YOU AWAY FOR GOOD...
KWAM
...OR I'M GOING TO DIE TRYING!

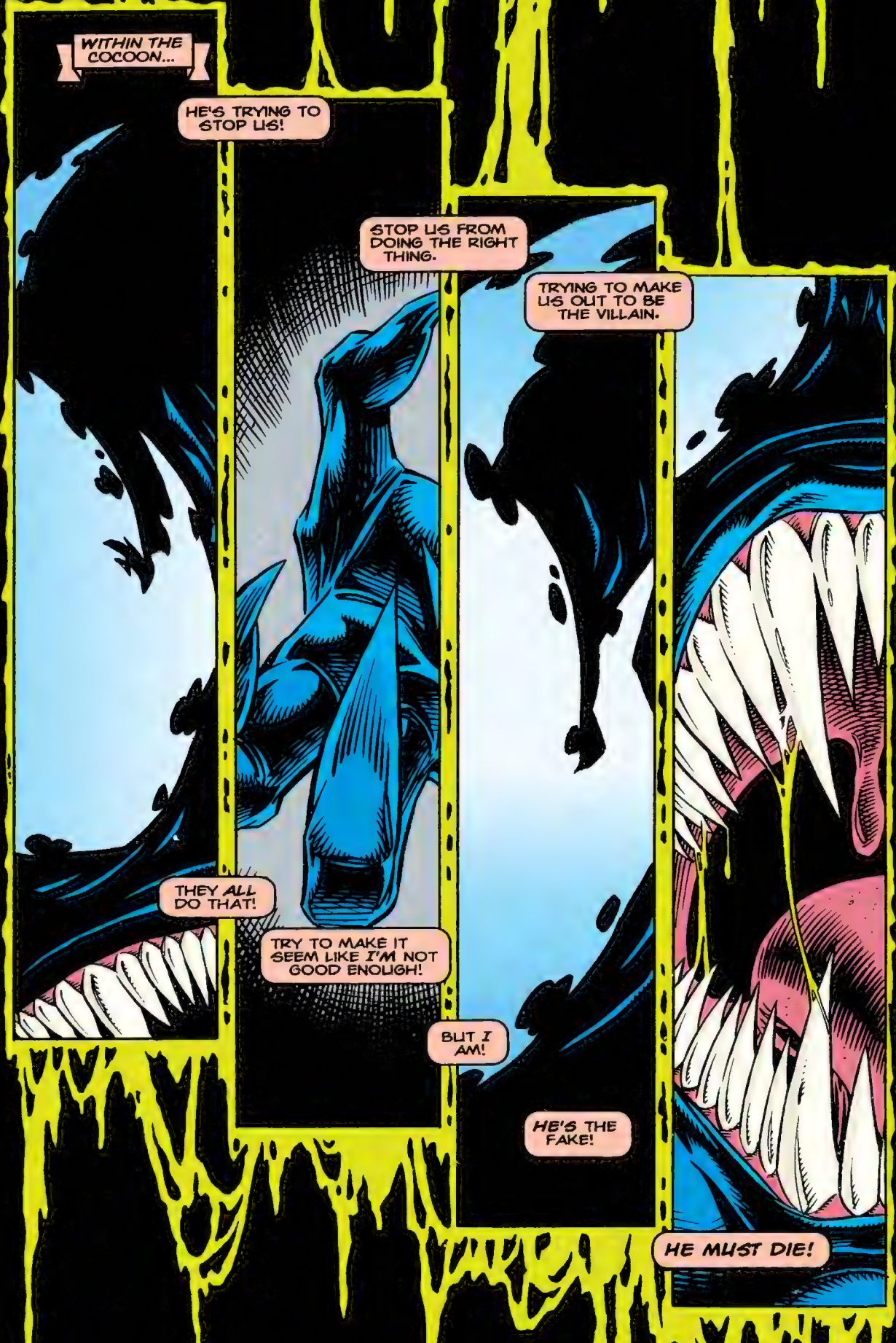

AT THE DAILY BUGLE, KEN ELLIS BURNS THE MIDNIGHT OIL.
HE IS A MAN DRIVEN BY HIS CAREER.
A MAN DETERMINED TO GET AN INTERVIEW WITH THE HERO HE HAS DUBBED THE SCARLET SPIDER.
A MAN COMMITTED TO ADVANCING HIS CAREER.
ELLIS.
BEAT IT! CAN'T YOU SEE I'M TRYING TO WRITE A --
MISTER JAMESON.
DON'T SWEAT IT, KID. I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE WHEN YOU'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF SOMETHING. HARD TO LET IT GO, huh?
JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU YOU'RE DOING A GREAT JOB.
KEEP IT UP.
JUST STAY OBJECTIVE, SON. DON'T LET THE STORY CONSUME YOU.
TAKE IT FROM ME... IT DOESN'T HELP THINGS.
YEAH... RIGHT!


TIMES SQUARE...
GOT TO LET MY SPIDER-SENSE DO ITS JOB.
YESTERDAY I WAS RUSTY... LET MY FEAR OVER-RIDE THE SPIDER-SENSE... AND HE ALMOST GUTTED ME. *
THAT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN AGAIN!
* LAST ISSUE--D.
NICE MOVE, LITTLE FAKER!
HOW'S YOUR STOMACH FEELING?
BETCHA IT HURTS TO BOUNCE AROUND LIKE THIS, huh?
IT'S GOING TO HURT EVER MORE WHEN I STRANGLE YOU WITH YOUR OWN INTESTINES!
GOING TO MAKE YOU PAY FOR IMITATING HIM!
GOING TO KILL YOU AND EAT YOUR BRAINS!
THIS GUY IS SICK!
BUT HE'S RIGHT. THE STOMACH IS KILLING ME.
THE PAIN IS TIRING ME OUT!
NEED TO SLOW HIM DOWN A BIT.


LAST TIME I TRIED THE IMPACT WEBBING ON HIM HE SIMPLY RIPPED THROUGH IT.
THIS TIME...
...I'LL UNLOAD A WHOLE BUNCH OF THEM AT HIM!
IT'S GOT TO SLOW HIM DOWN LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO CATCH MY BREATH!
I HOPE.
I DON'T LIKE THIS NEW WEBBING, YOU FRAUD!
IT NEVER STOPS GROWING.
JUST GOING TO MAKE ME MADDER!
I'LL LIVE WITH IT!
NO, YOU WON'T.

MEANWHILE...
THE SPIDER SOUGHT TO CONTAIN ME, FATHER.
HE TRIED TO HAVE ME IMPRISONED... CAGED LIKE SOME BROKEN AND SHAMED BEAST!
A KRAVINOFF WILL NOT BE BROKEN!
I USED OUR WEALTH TO GET OUT OF PRISON, FATHER.
AND NOW, I, THE GRIM HUNTER, SON OF KRAVEN, SWEAR TO YOU...
...THE HUNT WILL CONTINUE.
AND EITHER THE SPIDER... OR I...
...WILL DIE!


WHILE...
EXHAUSTED... STOMACH KILLING ME... STITCHES MIGHT RIP OPEN...
CAN'T WORRY ABOUT IT... HE'S GOING TO TEAR THROUGH THE WEBBING SOON... GOT TO BE ALERT...
GOT TO BE STRONG.
I'M STARTING TO BELIEVE I MIGHT ACTUALLY BE ABLE TO BEAT HIM.
GOT TO LET HIM WEAR HIMSELF OUT WHILE I REGAIN SOME STRENGTH.
IT'S GOING TO HAVE TO BE BRUTAL...
...VENOM WILL HAVE IT NO OTHER WAY.
STILL CAN'T ACCEPT THAT SPIDER-MAN MADE A DEAL WITH HIM.
HAS HE CHANGED SO MUCH SINCE I RECEIVED HIS MEMORIES... HIS VALUES?
OR IS IT ME WHO'S CHANGED?
WELL, IN ABOUT ANOTHER MINUTE I'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO SEE WHETHER I'VE CHANGED ENOUGH TO DEFEAT THE LIKES OF VENOM.


WITHIN THE COCOON...
HE'S TRYING TO STOP US!
STOP US FROM DOING THE RIGHT THING.
TRYING TO MAKE US OUT TO BE THE VILLAIN.
THEY ALL DO THAT!
TRY TO MAKE IT SEEM LIKE I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH!
BUT I AM!
HE'S THE FAKE!
HE MUST DIE!

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH...
POLICE DETECTIVE JACOB RAVEN SITS AT HIS WINDOW SEAT, APART FROM THE REST OF THE DETECTIVES IN THE HOMICIDE BUREAU.
HIS THOUGHTS ARE ELSEWHERE.
ON A KILLER WHO HAS ELUDED HIM FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS.
A KILLER HE IS DETERMINED TO BRING TO JUSTICE.
RAVEN, YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO SEE THIS --
-- LOOKS LIKE YOUR MAN HAS SHOWN UP IN NEW YORK CITY!
SAME MARKINGS ON THE FACE AS HE LEFT ON... ON...
TAKE IT, JACOB. IT'S YOURS.
RAVEN STUDIES THE FAX.
THE PHOTOS OF THE DEAD BODIES LEAVE NO DOUBT IN HIS MIND.
IT'S HIM.
IT'S HIM.

THIS IS IT.

THE WEBBING'S ABOUT TO GIVE.

GOT TO WORK ON THE FORMULA TO MAKE IT A LITTLE *STRONGER* FOR FUTURE USE.

IF I *HAVE* A FUTURE!

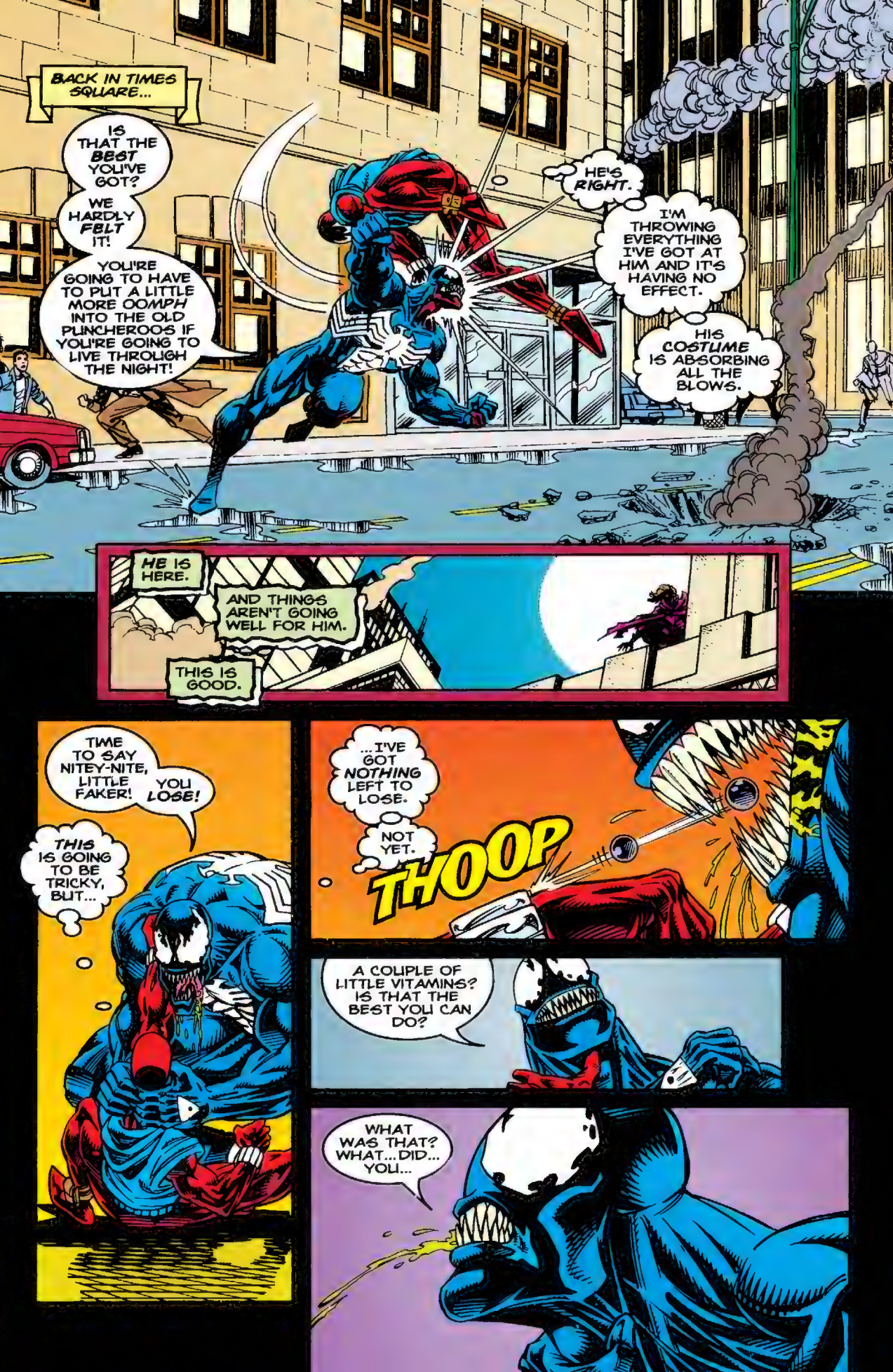
WE'RE FREE!

HOPE YOU'VE ENJOYED YOUR REST, LITTLE SPIDER, BECAUSE...

NAP TIME IS OVER!

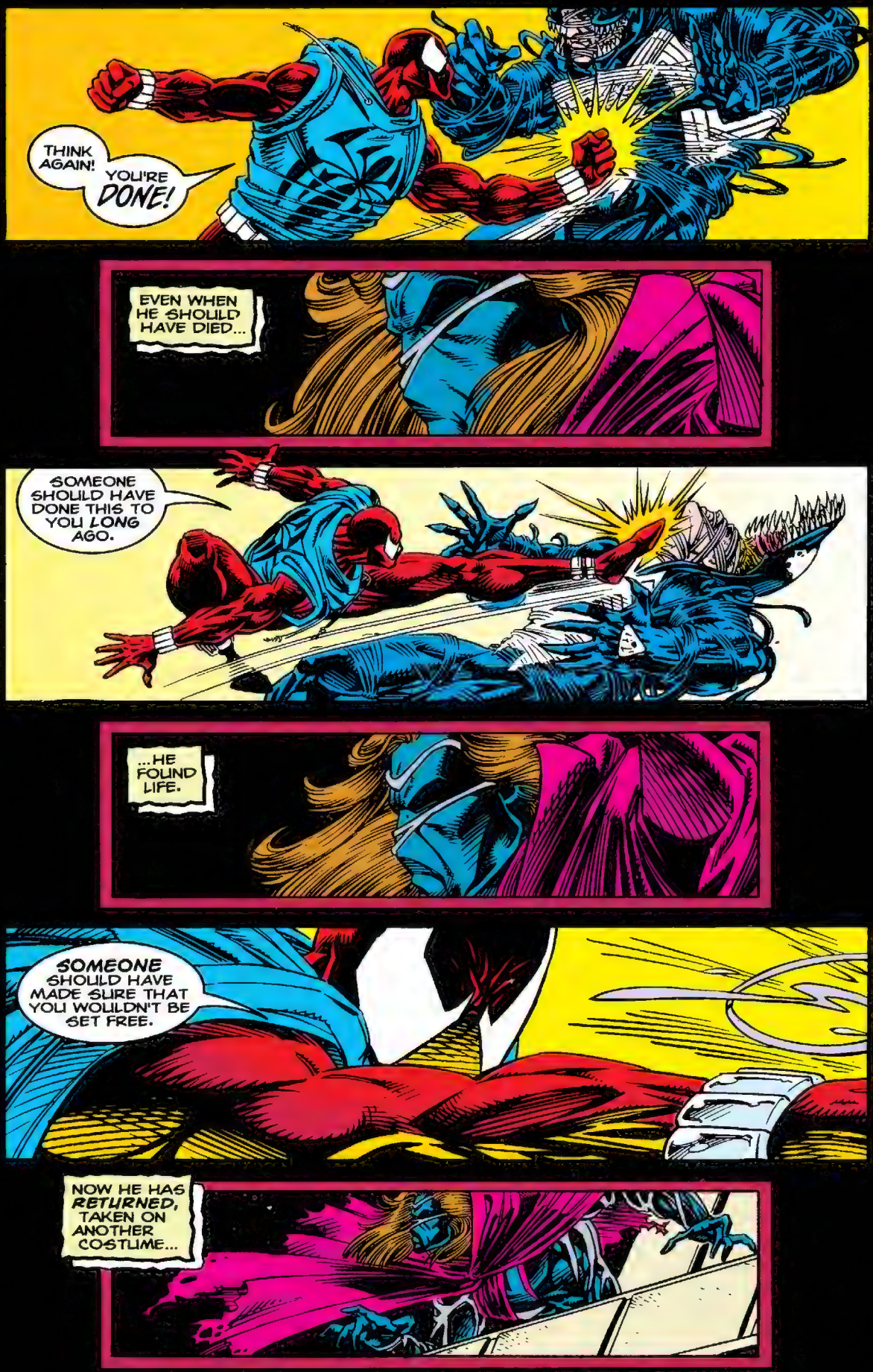
YEAH! *DEFINITELY* COULD USE A STRONGER WEBBING!

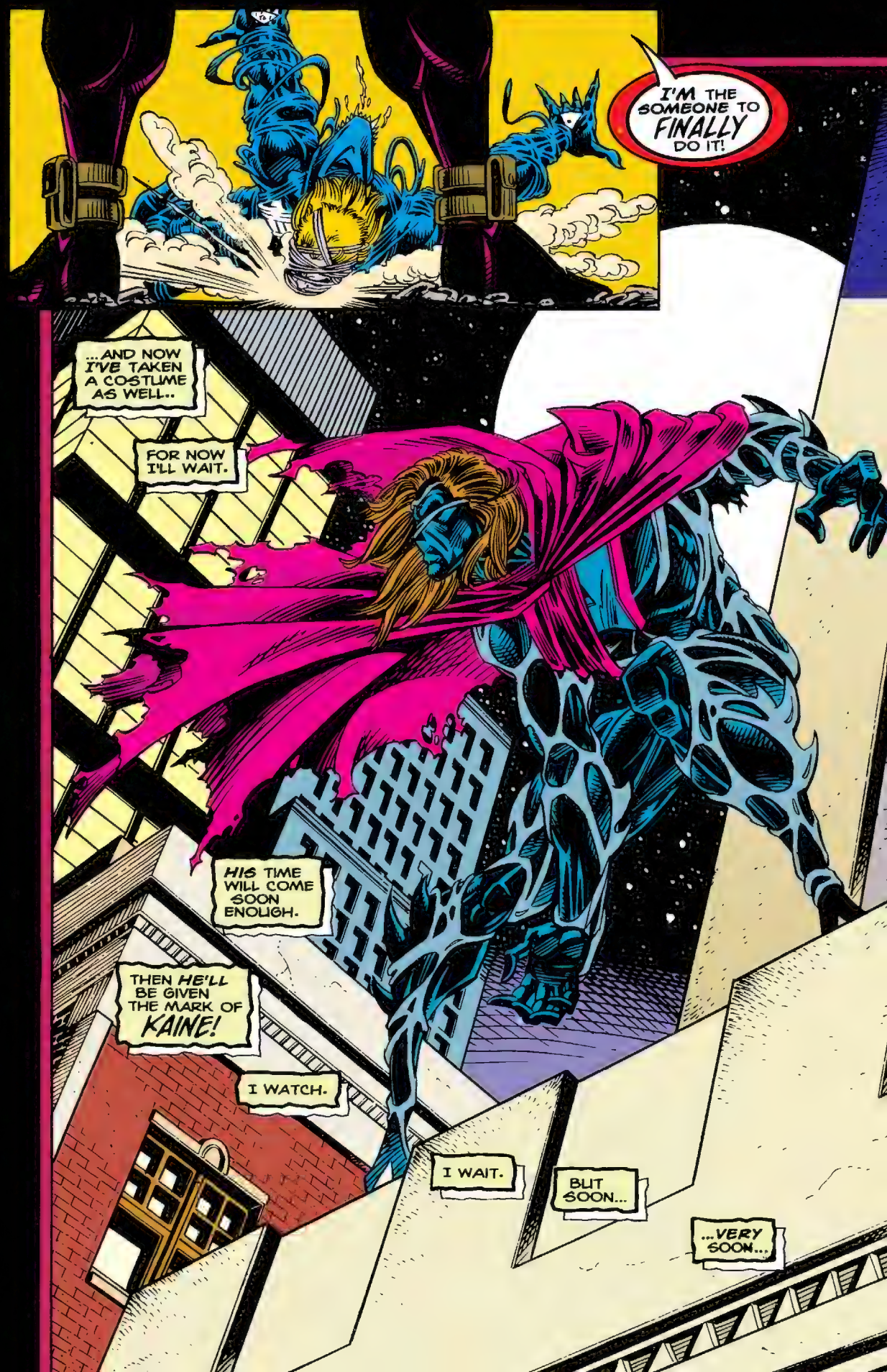
ELSEWHERE...
PLEASE, GAVIN, DO NOT DO THIS!
SORRY, LITTLE BROTHER...
...YOU LET ME DOWN.
SNAP
SOMEONE PLEASE SEE TO IT THAT MY BROTHER IS GIVEN A PROPER FUNERAL.
AND HAVE FLOWERS SENT IN MY NAME.
YES, MISTER THORPE.
NOW, ON TO BUSINESS.
I HAVE RETURNED FROM MY TRIP ABROAD AND AM NOW --
-- WITH MY BROTHER'S DEMISE --
-- OFFICIALLY BACK IN CHARGE OF OUR ORGANIZATION.
I WANT REPORTS ON ANY POTENTIAL INTERFERENCE WITH OUR DAY TO DAY OPERATION.
POLICE OFFICERS, DISTRICT ATTORNEYS, ANY COMPETITORS. I WANT NAMES.
SPIDER-MAN HAS BEEN KNOWN TO SLOW THINGS DOWN.
EXCELLENT, SIR.
NOW...
...HOW DO WE GO ABOUT ELIMINATING THIS SPIDER-MAN?

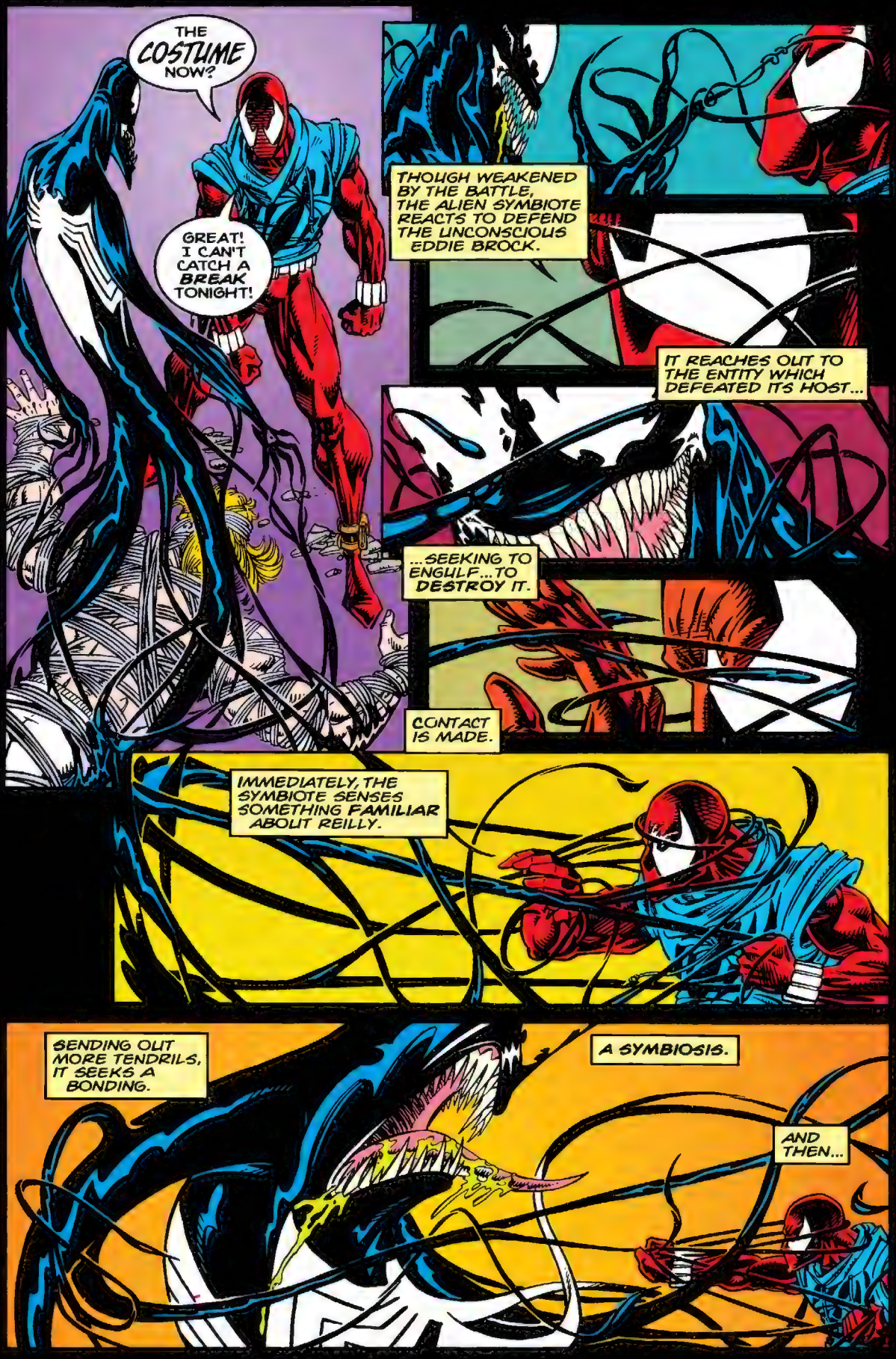

BACK IN TIMES SQUARE...
IS THAT THE BEST YOU'VE GOT?
WE HARDLY FELT IT!
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO PUT A LITTLE MORE OOMPH INTO THE OLD PUNCHEROOS IF YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE THROUGH THE NIGHT!
HE'S RIGHT.
I'M THROWING EVERYTHING I'VE GOT AT HIM AND IT'S HAVING NO EFFECT.
HIS COSTUME IS ABSORBING ALL THE BLOWS.
HE IS HERE.
AND THINGS AREN'T GOING WELL FOR HIM.
THIS IS GOOD.
TIME TO SAY NITEY-NITE, LITTLE FAKER!
YOU LOSE!
THIS IS GOING TO BE TRICKY, BUT...
...I'VE GOT NOTHING LEFT TO LOSE.
NOT YET.
THOOP
A COUPLE OF LITTLE VITAMINS? IS THAT THE BEST YOU CAN DO?
WHAT WAS THAT? WHAT... DID... YOU...

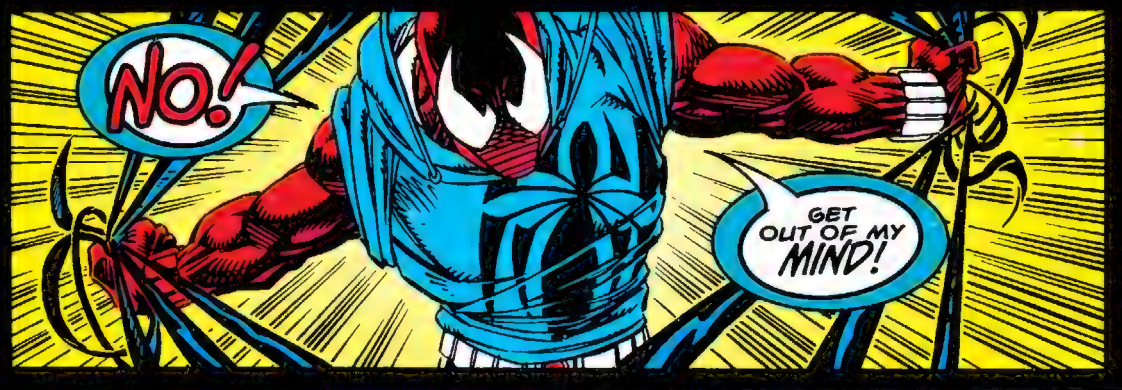
...DO...
...TO...
...US!
SHOT THE IMPACT WEBBING BETWEEN THE COSTUME AND THE MAN WITHIN.
IF THEY'RE PARTNERED THE WAY I READ ABOUT...
"...NOW I JUST SIT BACK AND WAIT FOR IT TO DO ITS THING.
"SPREAD OUT... GROW AND...
"PUSH THE LIVING COSTUME AWAY FROM THE MAN."
WHICH LEAVES HIM WIDE OPEN FOR A STINGER!
AAARRGH
THAT HURT!

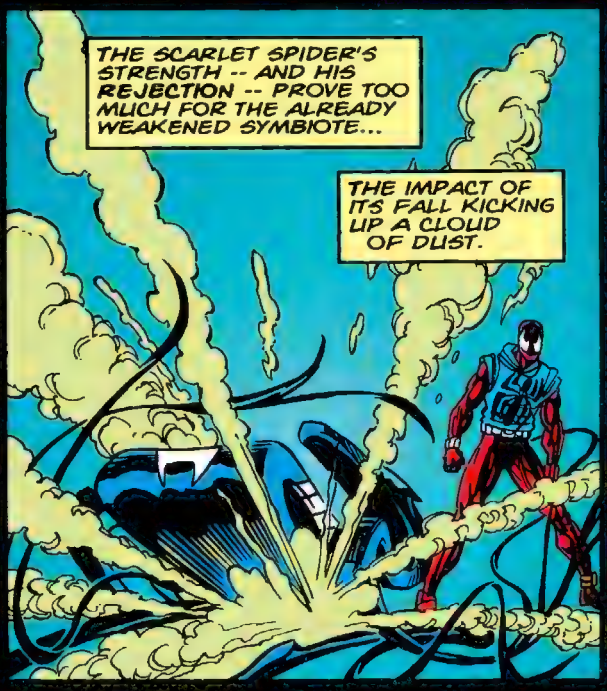
HE'S TURNING THE TIDE OF THE BATTLE.
HE ALWAYS WAS THE LUCKY ONE.
YOU CAN'T KILL US!
YOUR WEBBING AND YOUR STINGERS ONLY MAKE US ANGRY!
NOT LOOKING TO KILL YOU! JUST SETTING UP...
...THIS SHOT!
ALWAYS LUCKY.
WE WILL GNAW ON YOUR SPINE FOR THAT!
YOU CAN'T BEAT US!

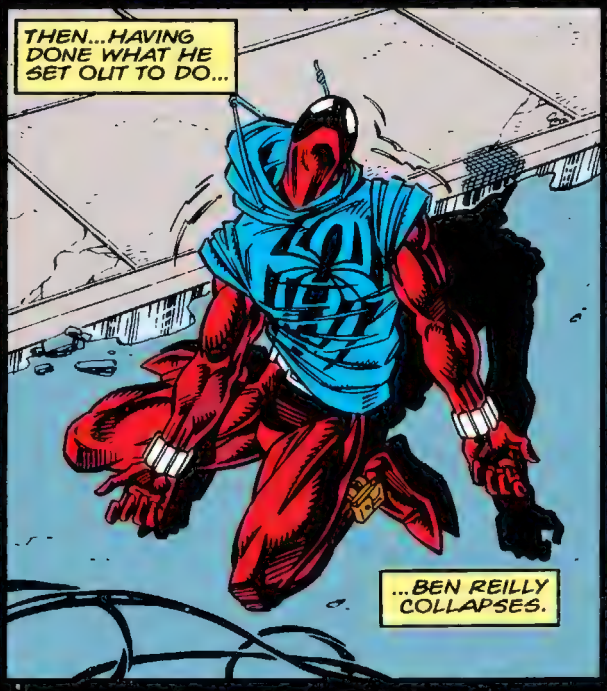

THINK AGAIN!
YOU'RE DONE!
EVEN WHEN HE SHOULD HAVE DIED...
SOMEONE SHOULD HAVE DONE THIS TO YOU LONG AGO.
...HE FOUND LIFE.
SOMEONE SHOULD HAVE MADE SURE THAT YOU WOULDN'T BE SET FREE.
NOW HE HAS RETURNED, TAKEN ON ANOTHER COSTUME...


I'M THE SOMEONE TO FINALLY DO IT!
...AND NOW I'VE TAKEN A COSTUME AS WELL..
FOR NOW I'LL WAIT.
HIS TIME WILL COME SOON ENOUGH.
THEN HE'LL BE GIVEN THE MARK OF KAINE!
I WATCH.
I WAIT.
BUT SOON...
...VERY SOON...

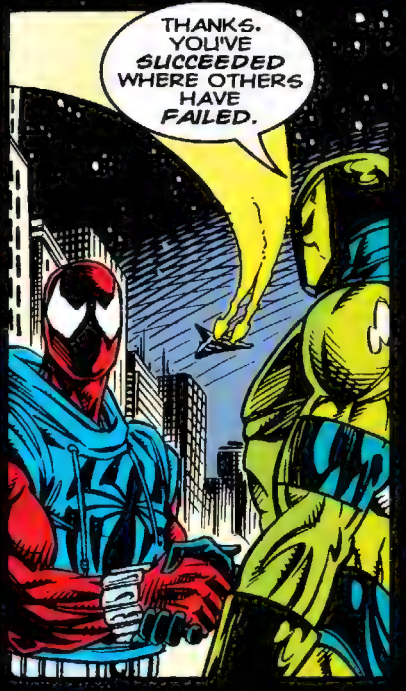

THE COSTUME NOW?
GREAT! I CAN'T CATCH A BREAK TONIGHT!
THOUGH WEAKENED BY THE BATTLE, THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE REACTS TO DEFEND THE UNCONSCIOUS EDDIE BROCK.
IT REACHES OUT TO THE ENTITY WHICH DEFEATED ITS HOST...
...SEEKING TO ENGULF...TO DESTROY IT.
CONTACT IS MADE.
IMMEDIATELY, THE SYMBIOTE SENSES SOMETHING FAMILIAR ABOUT REILLY.
SENDING OUT MORE TENDRILS, IT SEEKS A BONDING.
A SYMBIOSIS.
AND THEN...


NO!
GET OUT OF MY MIND!


THE SCARLET SPIDER'S STRENGTH -- AND HIS REJECTION -- PROVE TOO MUCH FOR THE ALREADY WEAKENED SYMBIOTE...
THE IMPACT OF ITS FALL KICKING UP A CLOUD OF DUST.


THEN...HAVING DONE WHAT HE SET OUT TO DO...
...BEN REILLY COLLAPSES.

LATER...
THE GUARDSMEN HAVE ARRIVED AND CONTAINED BOTH BROCK AND THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE.
THIS TIME WE'RE GOING TO KEEP THE TWO OF THEM AS FAR APART AS POSSIBLE.


THANKS. YOU'VE SUCCEEDED WHERE OTHERS HAVE FAILED.

I DID IT!
I BEAT VENOM!
MAYBE IT'S TIME TO START CLAIMING SOME SORT OF LIFE FOR MYSELF.
THERE'S NOTHING TO STAND IN MY WAY...
...NOTHING AT ALL!
NEXT ISSUE:
THE RETURN OF THE GRIM HUNTER AND...WHO IS KAINE?

MARVEL COMICS
1 DEC
VENOM
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SEPARATION ANXIETY
PART 1 OF 4
EDDIE BROCK™-- WITHOUT HIS LIVING COSTUME-- AT THE MERCY OF FIVE SYMBIOTES!

Look at them.
They're afraid of me.
I can't move a muscle...
...got weapons pointed at every major organ...
...and they're afraid of me!

You'd think that Eddie Brock was a dangerous man!

ALL UNITS TAKE GROUND POSITIONS.

PREPARE FOR LANDING AND TRANSFER OF THE PRISONER TO RESEARCH FACILITY.

ON YOUR TOES PEOPLE. IF HE MAKES ONE WRONG MOVE, I WANT HIM SMOKED!

STAN LEE PRESENTS VENOM: SEPARATION ANXIETY PART I OF IV

ABOUT

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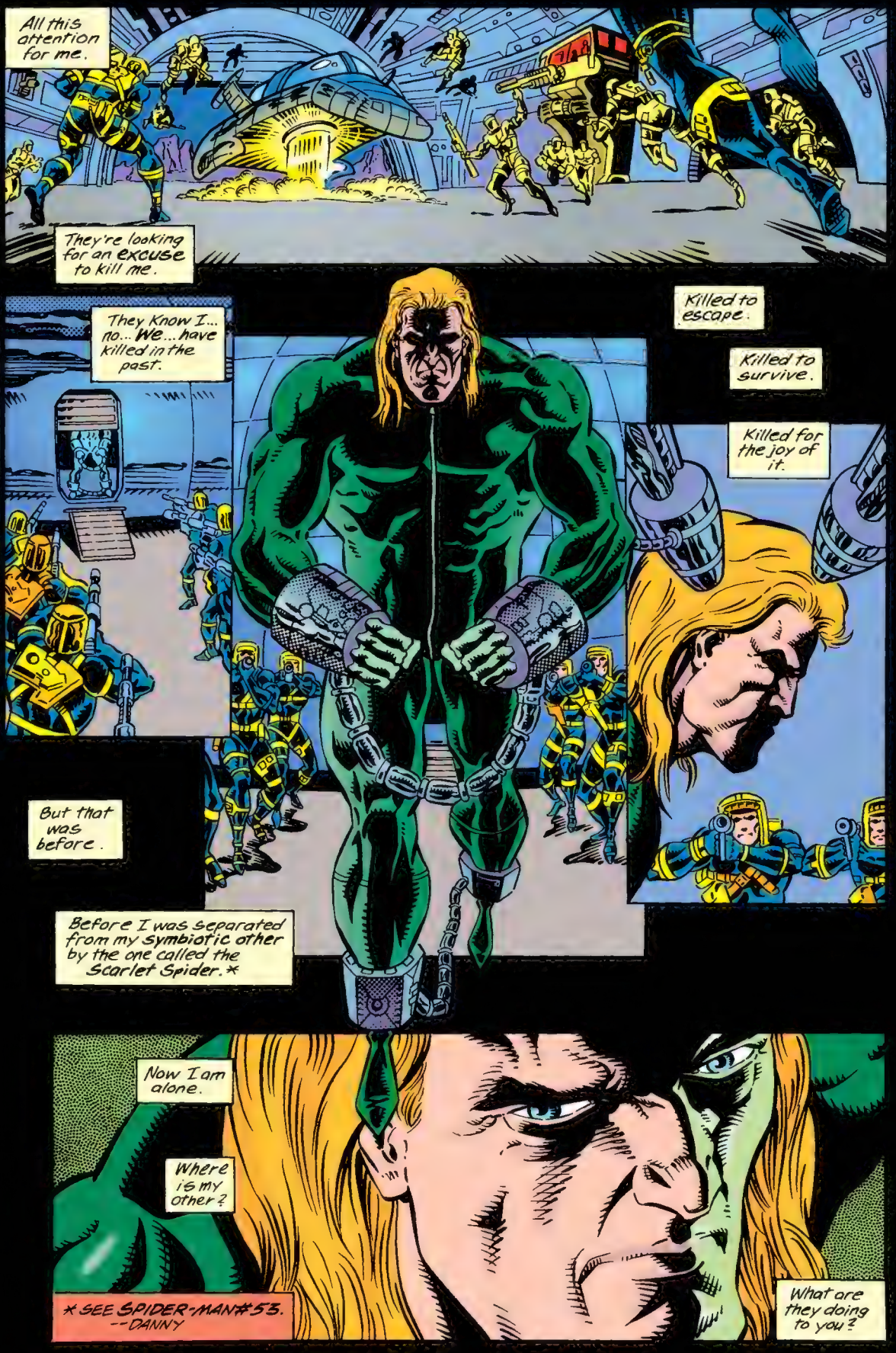
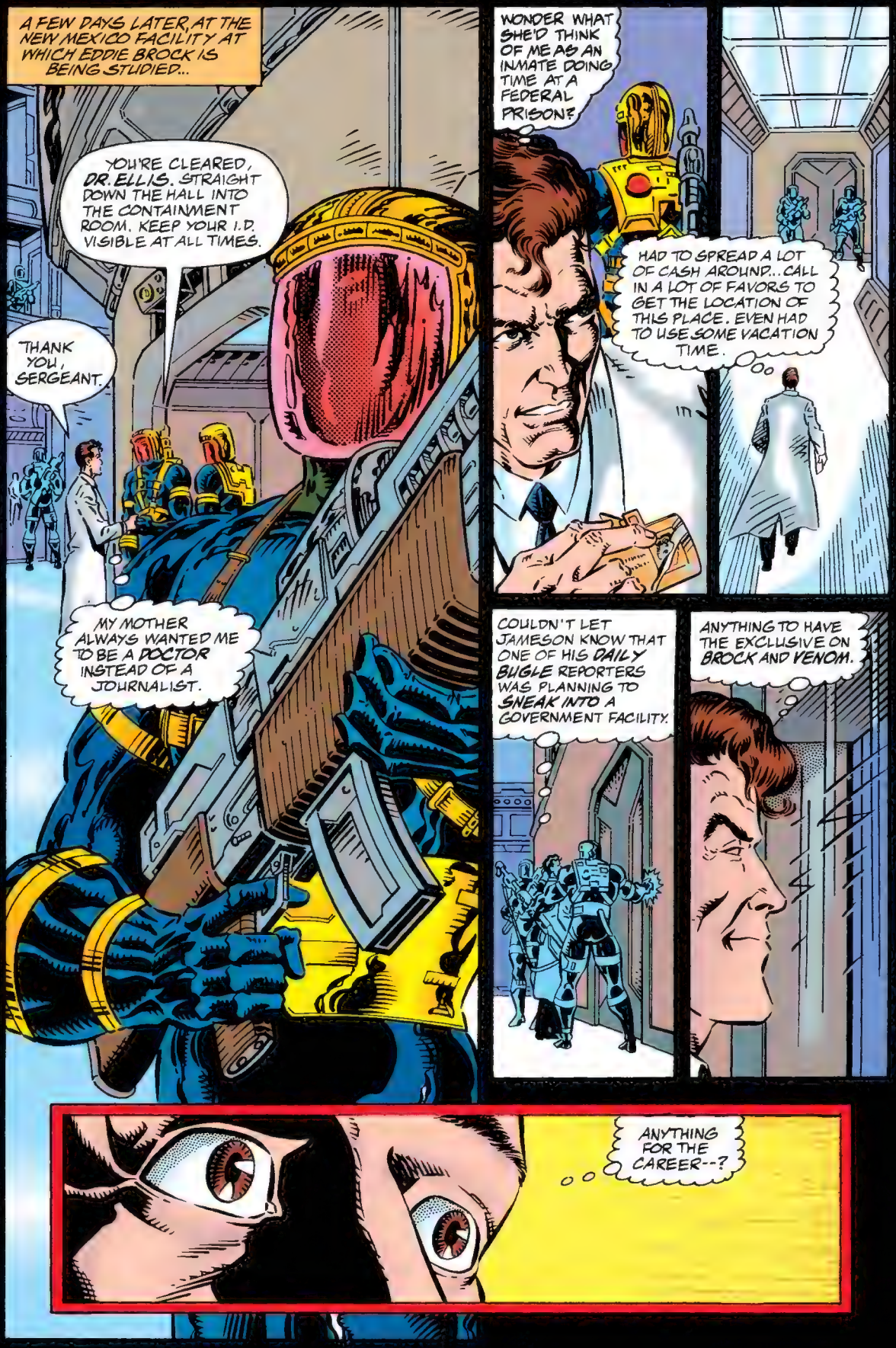

All this attention for me.
They're looking for an excuse to kill me.
They know I... no... we... have killed in the past.
Killed to escape.
Killed to survive.
Killed for the joy of it.
But that was before.
Before I was separated from my symbiotic other by the one called the Scarlet Spider.*
Now I am alone.
Where is my other?
What are they doing to you?
* SEE SPIDER-MAN #53.
--DANNY

A TOP SECRET GOVERNMENT LABORATORY IN THE ADIRONDACK MOUNTAINS OF NEW YORK STATE.
flames.
hot.
pain
pain
pain
STOP THE FLAMES.
WE CAN SEE IT'S IN PAIN. LET'S NOT TORTURE THE THING!
THIS IS REMARKABLE.
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO US. A LIFE FORM ALIEN TO OUR PLANET.
OURS TO EXPLORE AT WILL.
REMARKABLE.

DR. ZWERLING--
--IT APPEARS TO BE STARING AT...
...YOU!
eddie
pain
escape
eddie
IT IS ATTEMPTING COMMUNICATION.
APPARENTLY IT MISSES ITS FORMER HOST.
TRULY REMARKABLE.


A FEW DAYS LATER, AT THE NEW MEXICO FACILITY AT WHICH EDDIE BROCK IS BEING STUDIED...
YOU'RE CLEARED, DR. ELLIS. STRAIGHT DOWN THE HALL INTO THE CONTAINMENT ROOM. KEEP YOUR I.D. VISIBLE AT ALL TIMES.
THANK YOU, SERGEANT.
MY MOTHER ALWAYS WANTED ME TO BE A DOCTOR INSTEAD OF A JOURNALIST.
WONDER WHAT SHE'D THINK OF ME AS AN INMATE DOING TIME AT A FEDERAL PRISON?
HAD TO SPREAD A LOT OF CASH AROUND... CALL IN A LOT OF FAVORS TO GET THE LOCATION OF THIS PLACE. EVEN HAD TO USE SOME VACATION TIME.
COULDN'T LET JAMESON KNOW THAT ONE OF HIS DAILY BUGLE REPORTERS WAS PLANNING TO SNEAK INTO A GOVERNMENT FACILITY.
ANYTHING TO HAVE THE EXCLUSIVE ON BROCK AND VENOM.
ANYTHING FOR THE CAREER--?

OH, YEAH...
...THIS IS GOING TO BE A PIECE OF CAKE.
AS LONG AS I DON'T GET KILLED FIRST!

The silence is the worst part.

No one will talk to me.

Not that I can blame them.

It's just that I haven't been really alone since...

...since the day I went to church...

...and was united with my other!

It was painful at first. I resisted, but then we discovered we had a common enemy...

...Spider-Man!

On that day, We became one.

We became Venom!

Ours was a single goal!

Kill Spider-Man at all costs.

All costs!

In our anger, we lashed out at all who stood in our way.

Policemen.

Federal guards.

Innocent bystanders.

All fell before our rage... our Venom!

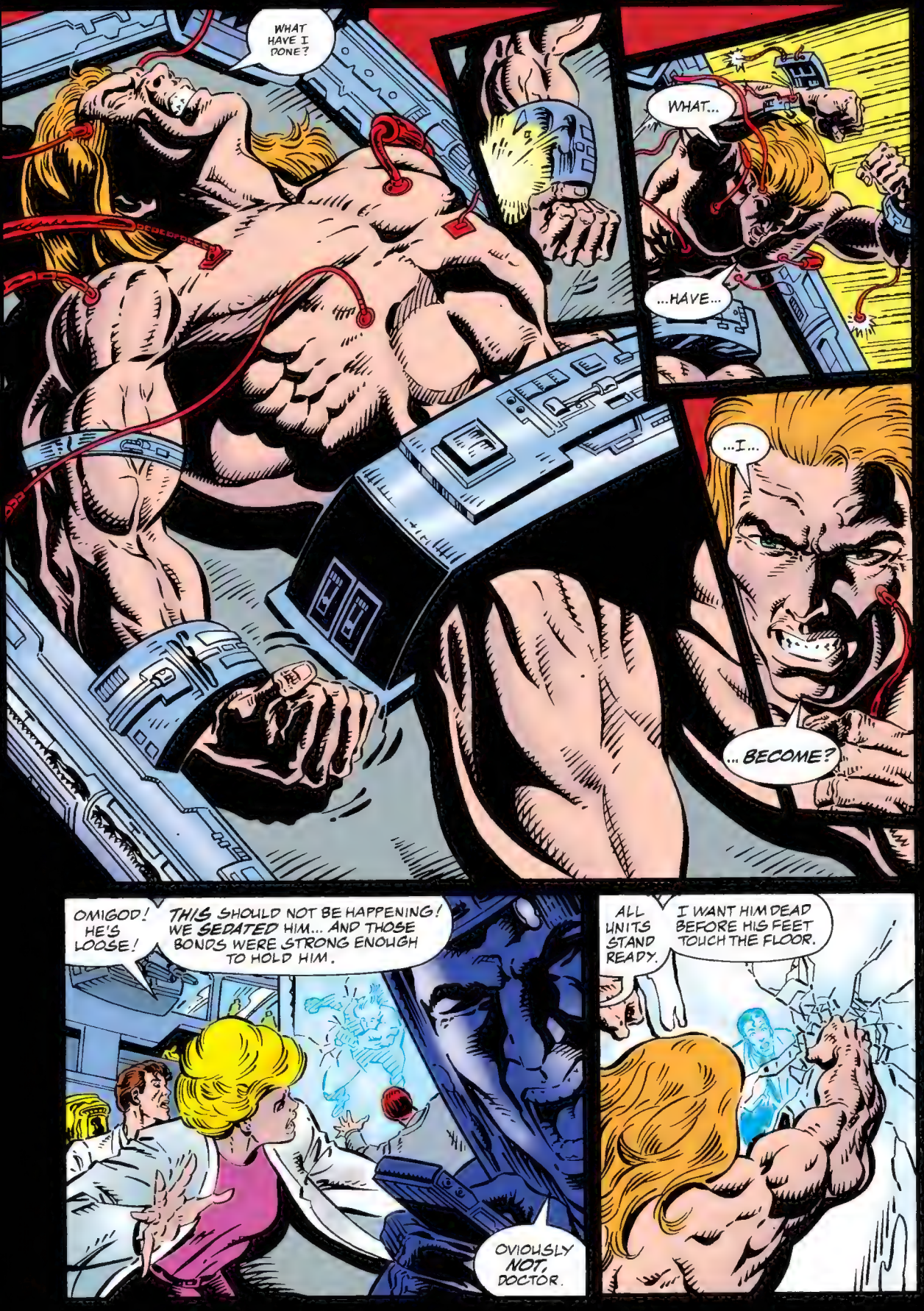
We... I... we... Killed...

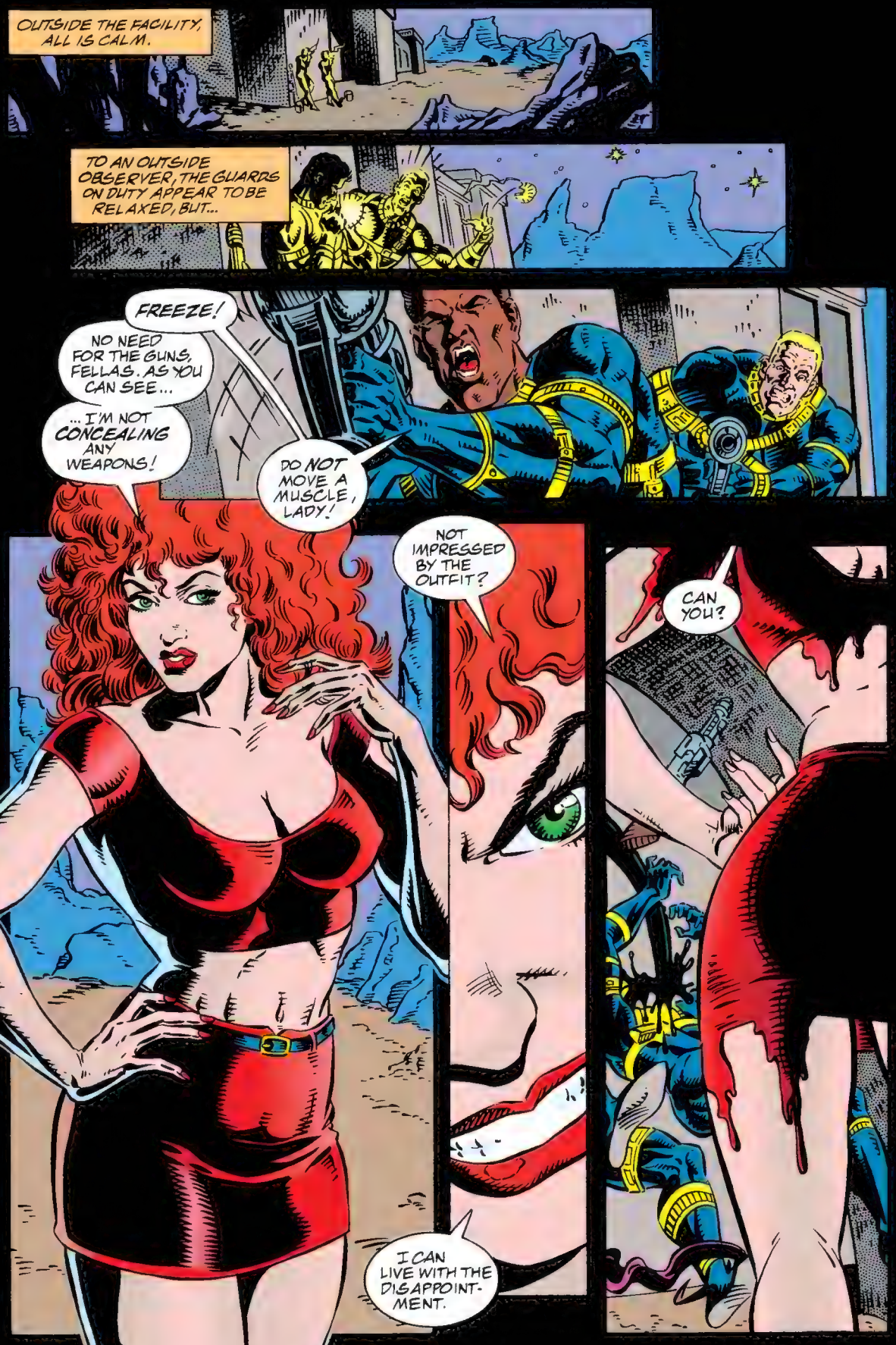
Now I'm alone with my sins.

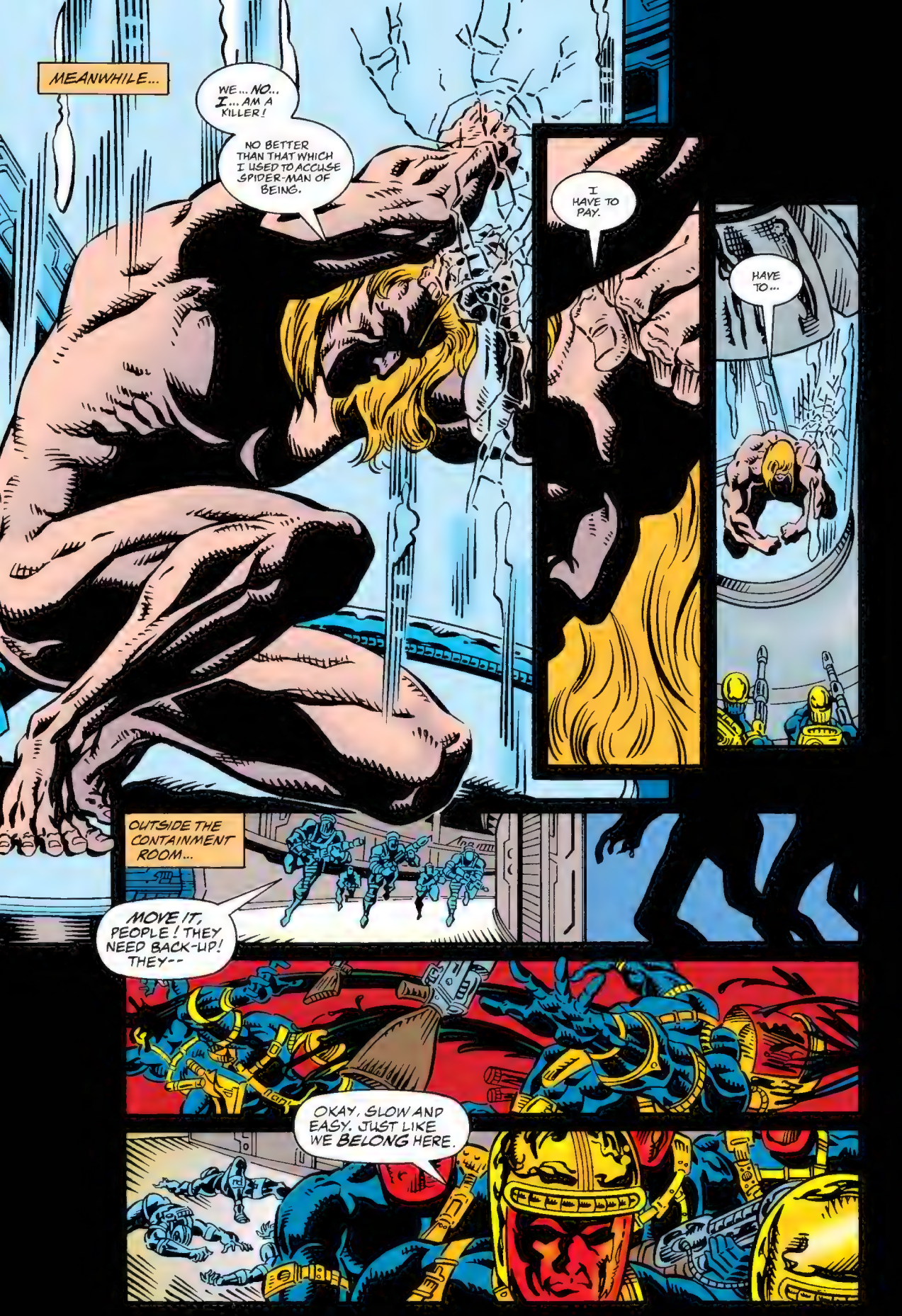
Alone to ask myself...

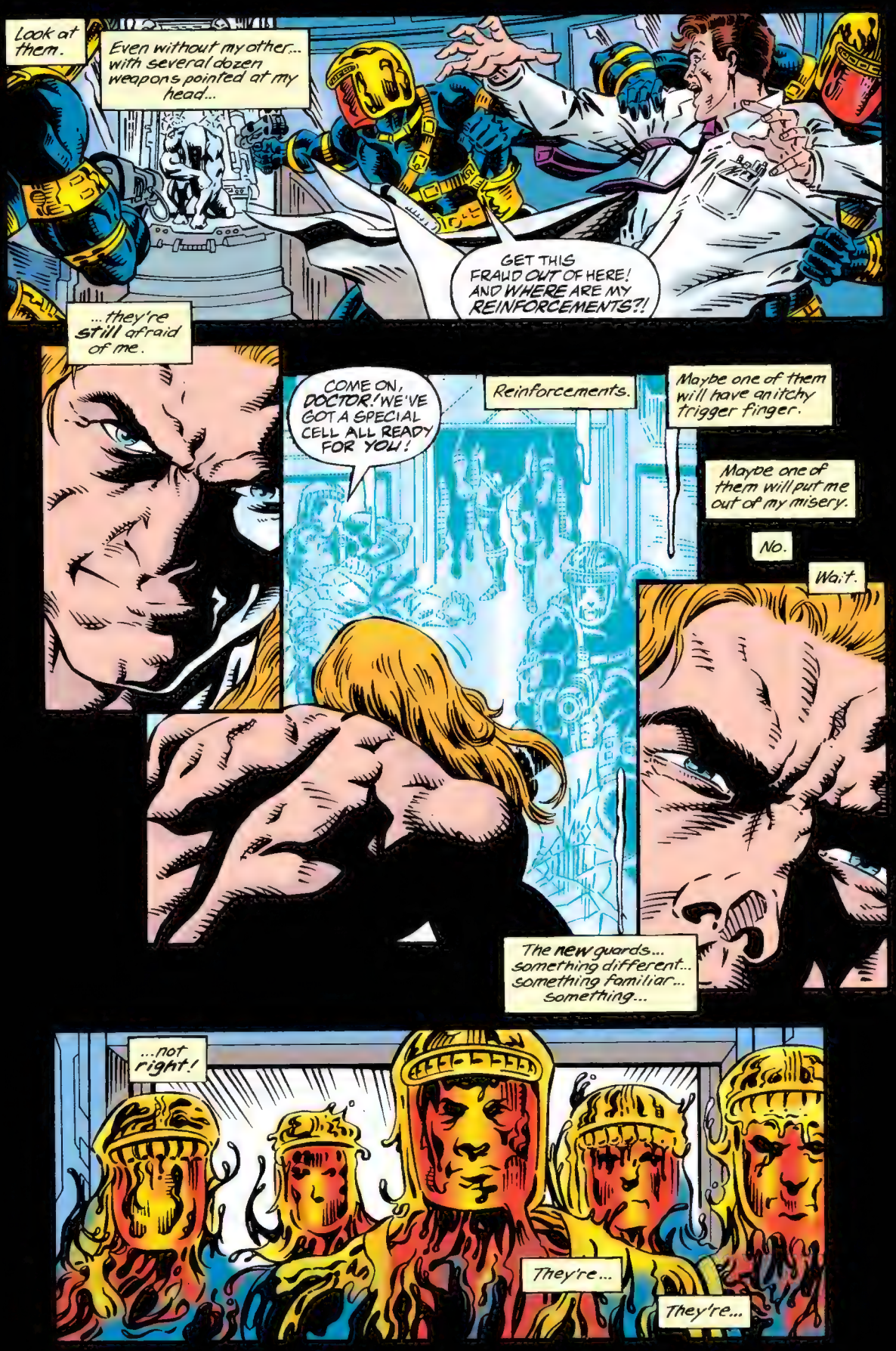
WHAT HAVE I DONE? WHAT HAVE I BECOME?

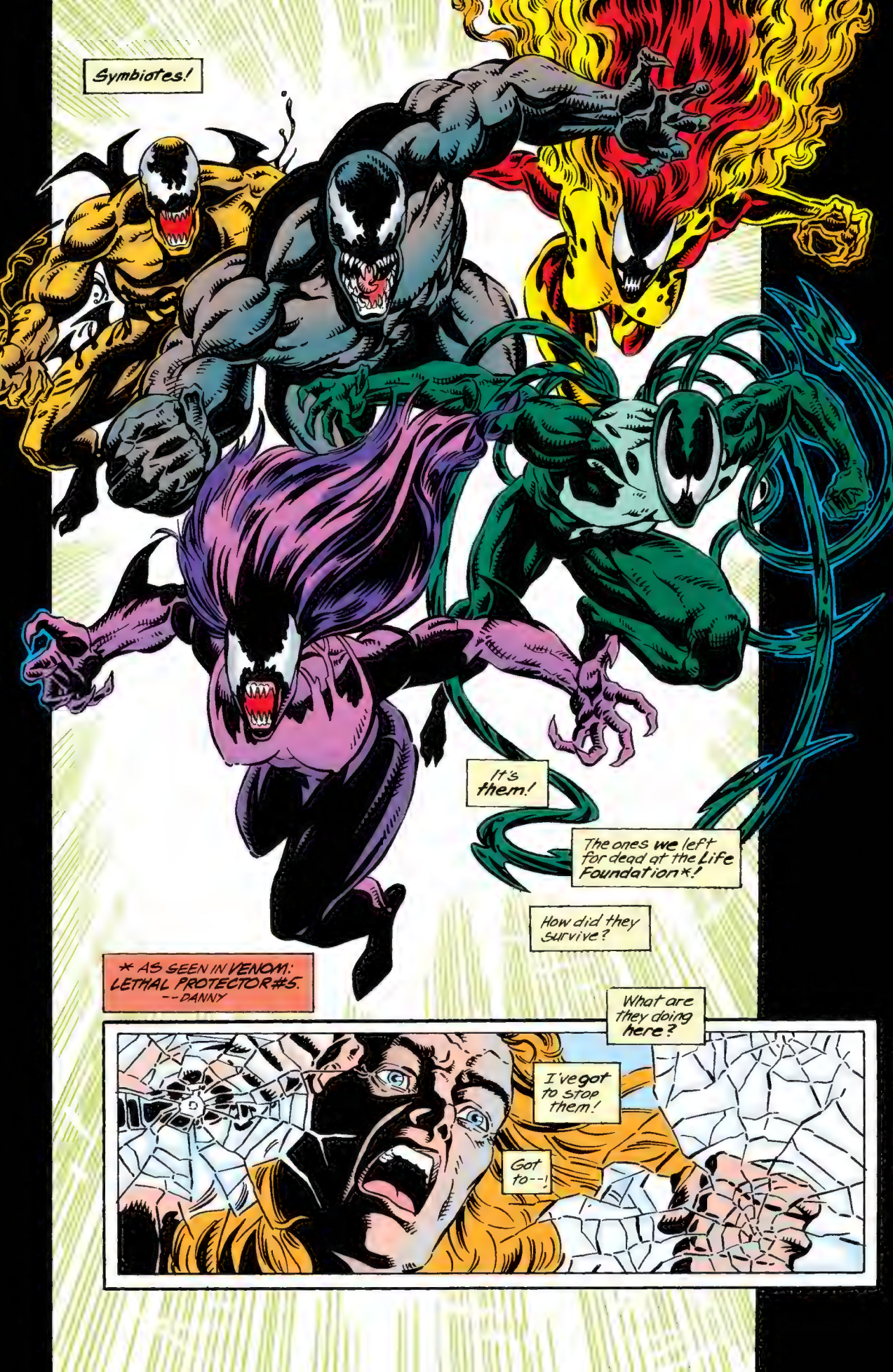
AT THAT MOMENT...
escape
pain
eddie
parker
doctor
escape
escape
escape
MEANWHILE...
I CAN DO THIS.
I'VE WALKED INTO THE MIDDLE OF DRUG DEALS...
...PENETRATED A MOB FAMILY...
...AND HAD LUNCH AT A TABLE NEXT TO THE KINGPIN.
IT'S ALL IN MAKING IT LOOK LIKE YOU BELONG--
--BELIEVING THAT YOU BELONG--!
EXCUSE ME, DOCTOR ELLIS!
MAY WE HAVE A CLOSER LOOK AT YOUR IDENTIFI-CATION...
...NOW!


WHAT HAVE I DONE?
WHAT...
...HAVE...
...I...
...BECOME?
OMIGOD! HE'S LOOSE!
THIS SHOULD NOT BE HAPPENING! WE SEDATED HIM... AND THOSE BONDS WERE STRONG ENOUGH TO HOLD HIM.
OVIOUSLY NOT, DOCTOR.
ALL UNITS STAND READY.
I WANT HIM DEAD BEFORE HIS FEET TOUCH THE FLOOR.


OUTSIDE THE FACILITY, ALL IS CALM.
TO AN OUTSIDE OBSERVER, THE GUARDS ON DUTY APPEAR TO BE RELAXED, BUT...
FREEZE!
NO NEED FOR THE GUNS, FELLAS. AS YOU CAN SEE...
... I'M NOT CONCEALING ANY WEAPONS!
DO NOT MOVE A MUSCLE, LADY!
NOT IMPRESSED BY THE OUTFIT?
I CAN LIVE WITH THE DISAPPOINT-MENT.
CAN YOU?

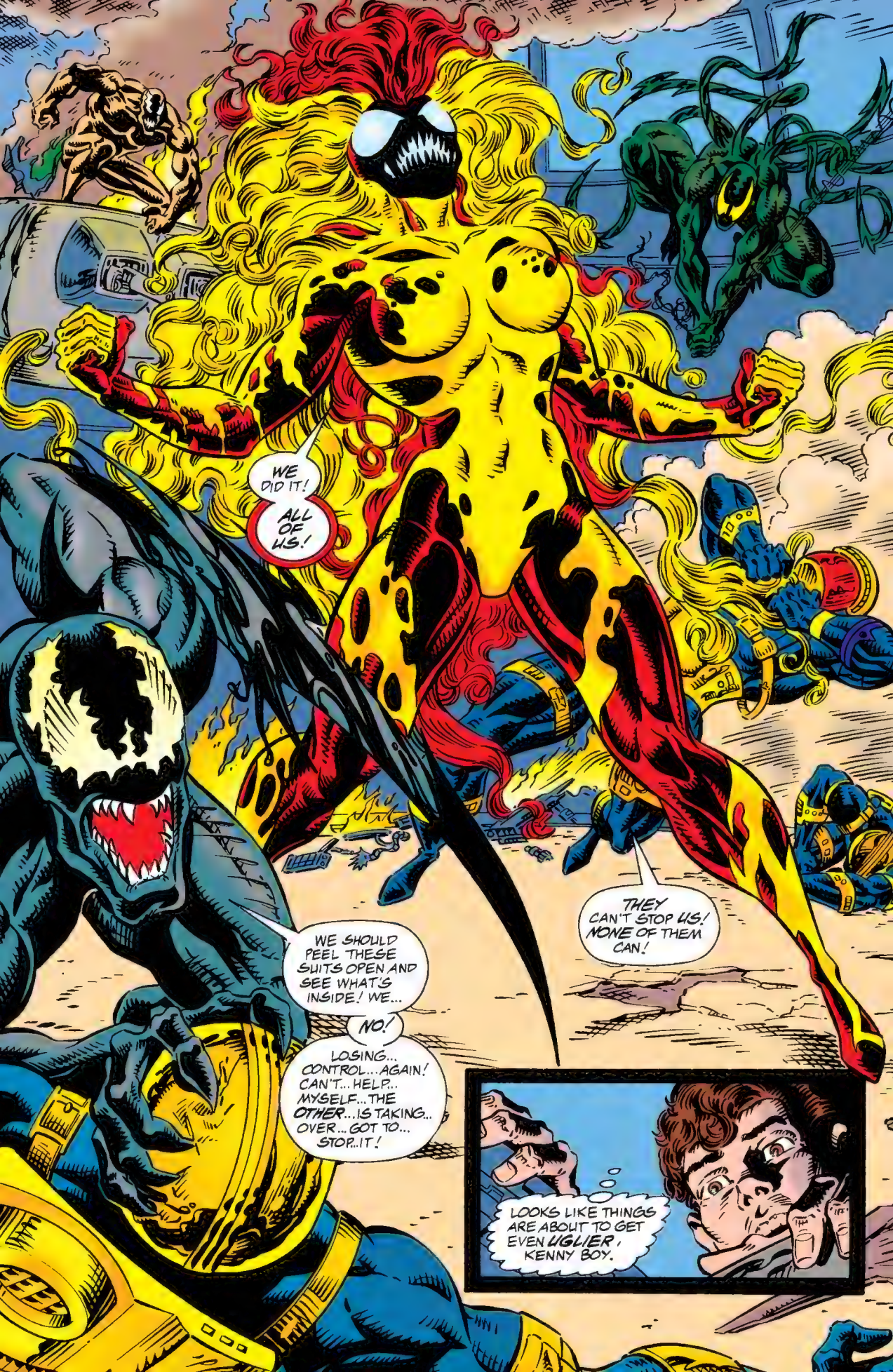

MEANWHILE...
WE... NO... I... AM A KILLER!
NO BETTER THAN THAT WHICH I USED TO ACCUSE SPIDER-MAN OF BEING.
I HAVE TO PAY.
HAVE TO...
OUTSIDE THE CONTAINMENT ROOM...
MOVE IT, PEOPLE! THEY NEED BACK-UP! THEY--
OKAY, SLOW AND EASY. JUST LIKE WE BELONG HERE.


Look at them.
Even without my other... with several dozen weapons pointed at my head...
GET THIS FRAUD OUT OF HERE! AND WHERE ARE MY REINFORCEMENTS?!
...they're still afraid of me.
COME ON, DOCTOR! WE'VE GOT A SPECIAL CELL ALL READY FOR YOU!
Reinforcements.
Maybe one of them will have an itchy trigger finger.
Maybe one of them will put me out of my misery.
No.
Wait.
The new guards... something different... something familiar... something...
...not right!
They're...
They're...

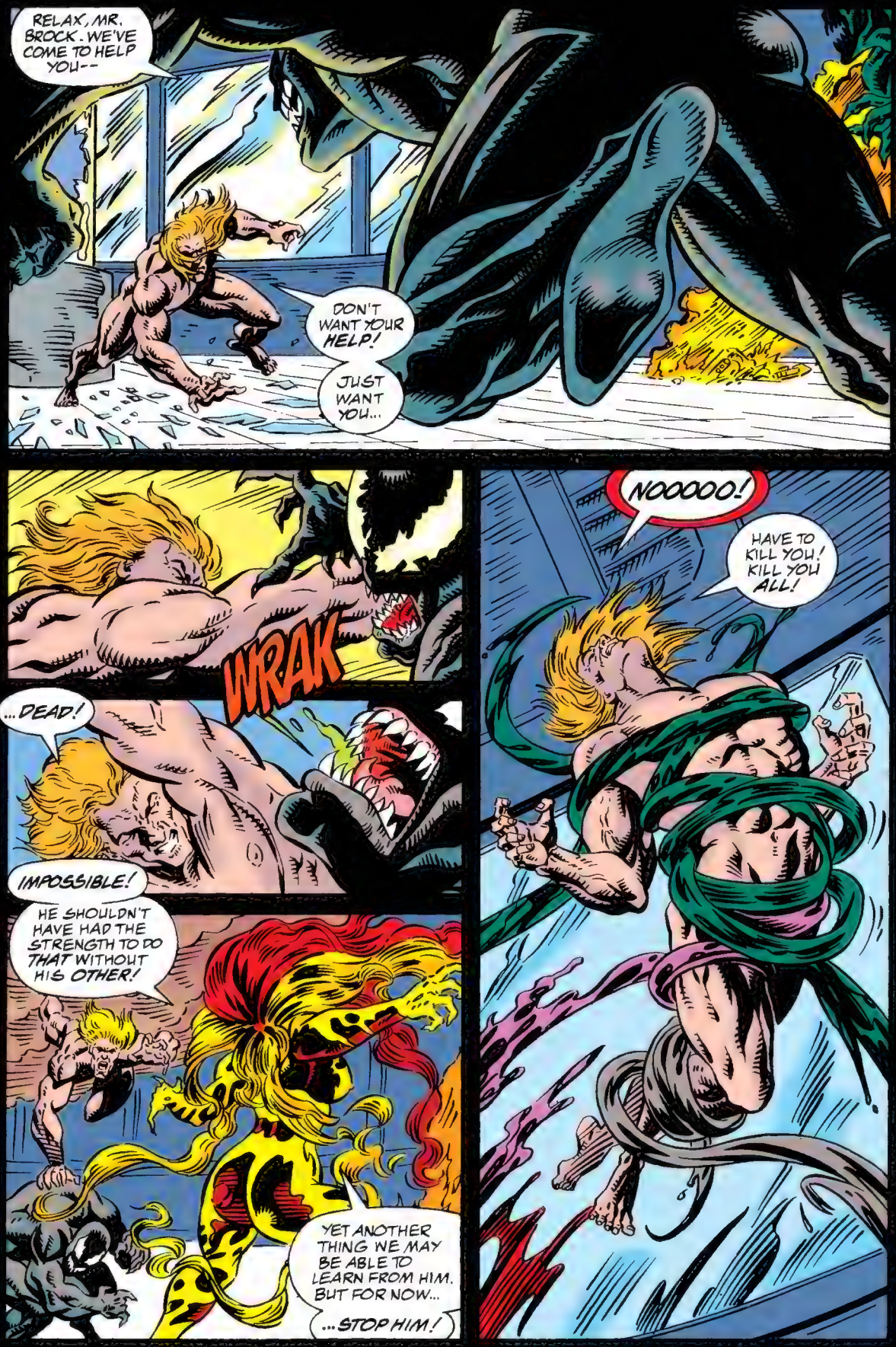

Symbiotes!
It's them!
The ones we left for dead at the Life Foundation*!
How did they survive?
* AS SEEN IN VENOM: LETHAL PROTECTOR #5. --DANNY
What are they doing here?
I've got to stop them!
Got to--!

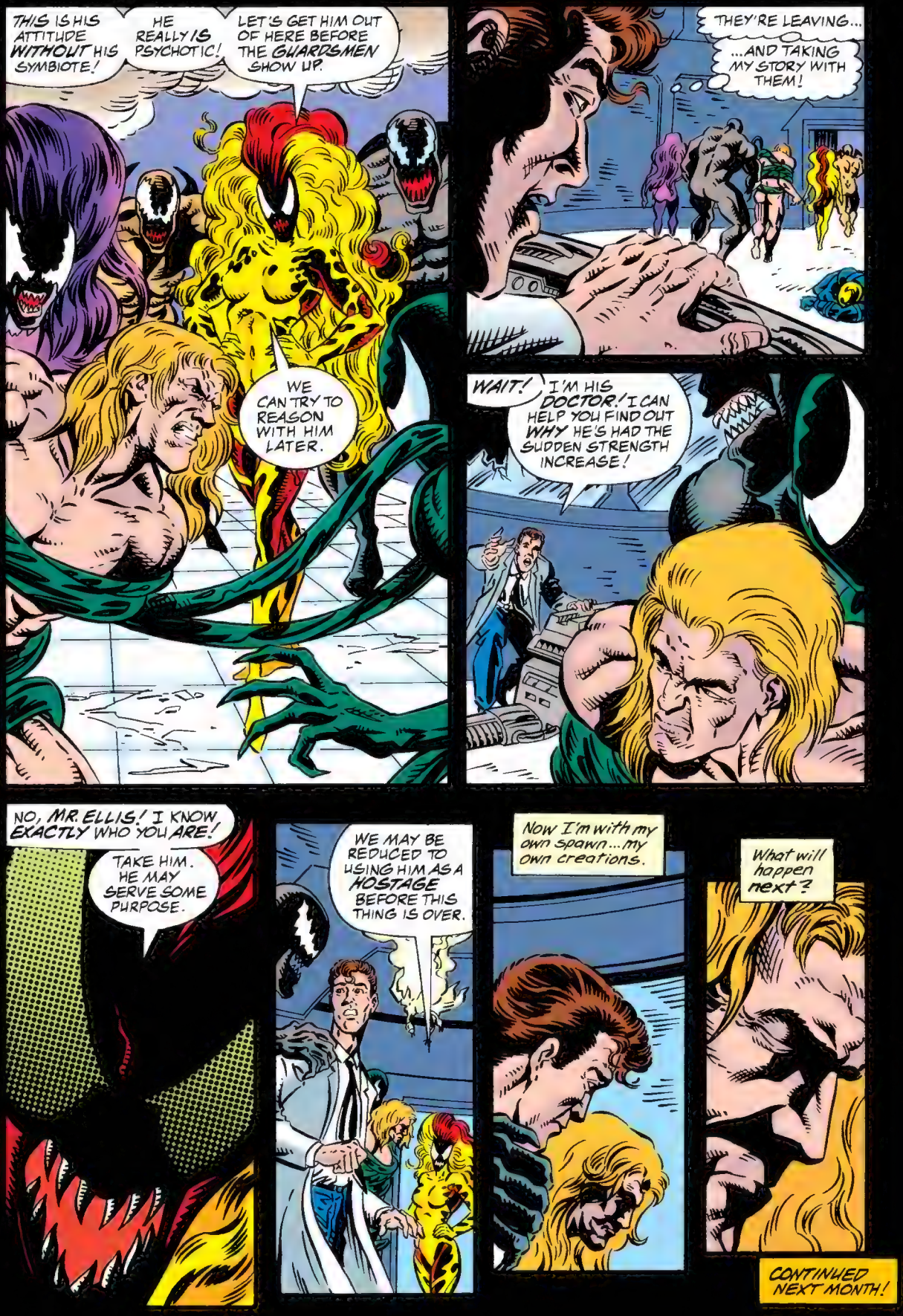
WE SURPRISED THEM! WE REALLY SURPRISED THEM!
GOT TO DESTROY THEIR WEAPONS BEFORE THEY CAN TURN THEM ON US!
HURT THEM, BUT DON'T KILL THEM. LIKE THEY'D GIVE US THE SAME CONSIDERATION!
GUESS THAT MAKES US BETTER THAN THEM, DON'T IT?
EAT YOUR HEART OUT, URICH!
THIS IS MORE THAN EVEN I BARGAINED FOR!
BUT WHAT AN INSIDE STORY TO HAVE!
Got to stop them!

THEY'RE USING THE SONICS!
SOMEONE TAKE THEM OUT BEFORE--
WE'VE ALL SEEN THEM BEFORE!
GOOD EVENING, GENTLEMEN! HOPE YOU DON'T MIND, BUT WE'RE TRYING TO WORK HERE!
I'M ON IT.
PLIP
WHOOPS! HE SLIPPED! REALLY! I MEAN IT!
Stop them!

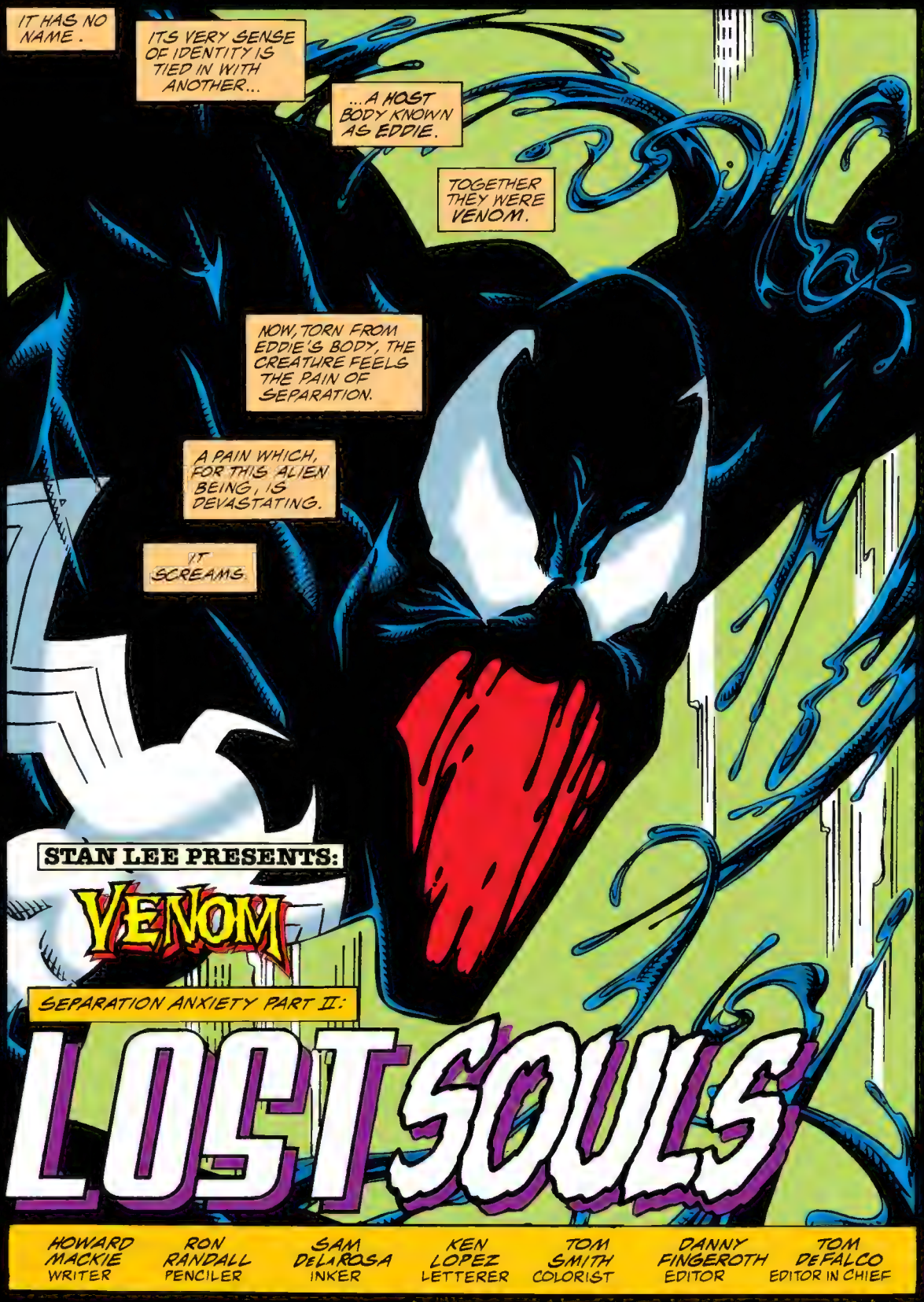

WE DID IT!
ALL OF US!
THEY CAN'T STOP US! NONE OF THEM CAN!
WE SHOULD PEEL THESE SUITS OPEN AND SEE WHAT'S INSIDE! WE...
NO!
LOSING... CONTROL... AGAIN! CAN'T... HELP... MYSELF... THE OTHER... IS TAKING... OVER... GOT TO... STOP... IT!
LOOKS LIKE THINGS ARE ABOUT TO GET EVEN UGLIER, KENNY BOY.

GET A GRIP! REGAIN CONTROL!
WHY?
OUR OTHERS GIVE US STRENGTH! STRENGTH TO DO WHATEVER WE PLEASE--
STOP!
WE'VE GOT TO MAINTAIN CONTROL OF OURSELVES! OTHERWISE WE ARE NO BETTER THAN--
KTASH
--HIM!


RELAX, MR. BROCK. WE'VE COME TO HELP YOU--
DON'T WANT YOUR HELP!
JUST WANT YOU...
WRAK
...DEAD!
IMPOSSIBLE!
HE SHOULDN'T HAVE HAD THE STRENGTH TO DO THAT WITHOUT HIS OTHER!
YET ANOTHER THING WE MAY BE ABLE TO LEARN FROM HIM. BUT FOR NOW...
...STOP HIM!
NOOOOO!
HAVE TO KILL YOU! KILL YOU ALL!


THIS IS HIS ATTITUDE WITHOUT HIS SYMBIOTE!
HE REALLY IS PSYCHOTIC!
LET'S GET HIM OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE GUARDSMEN SHOW UP.
WE CAN TRY TO REASON WITH HIM LATER.
THEY'RE LEAVING...
...AND TAKING MY STORY WITH THEM!
WAIT!
I'M HIS DOCTOR! I CAN HELP YOU FIND OUT WHY HE'S HAD THE SUDDEN STRENGTH INCREASE!
NO, MR. ELLIS! I KNOW EXACTLY WHO YOU ARE!
TAKE HIM. HE MAY SERVE SOME PURPOSE.
WE MAY BE REDUCED TO USING HIM AS A HOSTAGE BEFORE THIS THING IS OVER.
Now I'm with my own spawn... my own creations.
What will happen next?
CONTINUED NEXT MONTH!

MARVEL COMICS
2
JAN
VENOM
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SEPARATION ANXIETY
PART 2 OF 4
A SYMBIOTE UNLEASHED!
RANDALL DELAROSA
BUT WHERE IS EDDIE BROCK?


IT HAS NO NAME.
ITS VERY SENSE OF IDENTITY IS TIED IN WITH ANOTHER...
...A HOST BODY KNOWN AS EDDIE.
TOGETHER THEY WERE VENOM.
NOW, TORN FROM EDDIE'S BODY, THE CREATURE FEELS THE PAIN OF SEPARATION.
A PAIN WHICH, FOR THIS ALIEN BEING, IS DEVASTATING.
IT SCREAMS.
STAN LEE PRESENTS:
VENOM
SEPARATION ANXIETY PART II:
LOST SOULS

HOWARD MACKIE	RON RANDALL	SAM DELAROSA	KEN LOPEZ	TOM SMITH	DANNY FINGEROTH	TOM DEFALCO
WRITER	PENCILER	INKER	LETTERER	COLORIST	EDITOR	EDITOR IN CHIEF

THE SCREAM, THOUGH JUST BELOW THE RANGE OF HUMAN HEARING, IS CARRIED THROUGH THE HALLS OF THE TOP SECRET RESEARCH FACILITY...

...AND TO THE SURROUNDING COMPOUND WHERE GUARDS ALL BECOME UNEASILY ALERT AS THE SCREAM CHILLS THEM TO THE BONE.

BACK INSIDE, DR. EDMUND ZWERLING WATCHES ON, CALMLY AND CLINICALLY...

FASCINATING.

APPARENTLY, THE CREATURE MISSES ITS HOST.

IT SHOULD HAVE NO MEANS OF GENERATING SUCH A SOUND AND YET...

SIMPLY FASCINATING.

ONE MUST WONDER WHAT OTHER SURPRISES IT MIGHT HAVE IN STORE FOR US

search

find

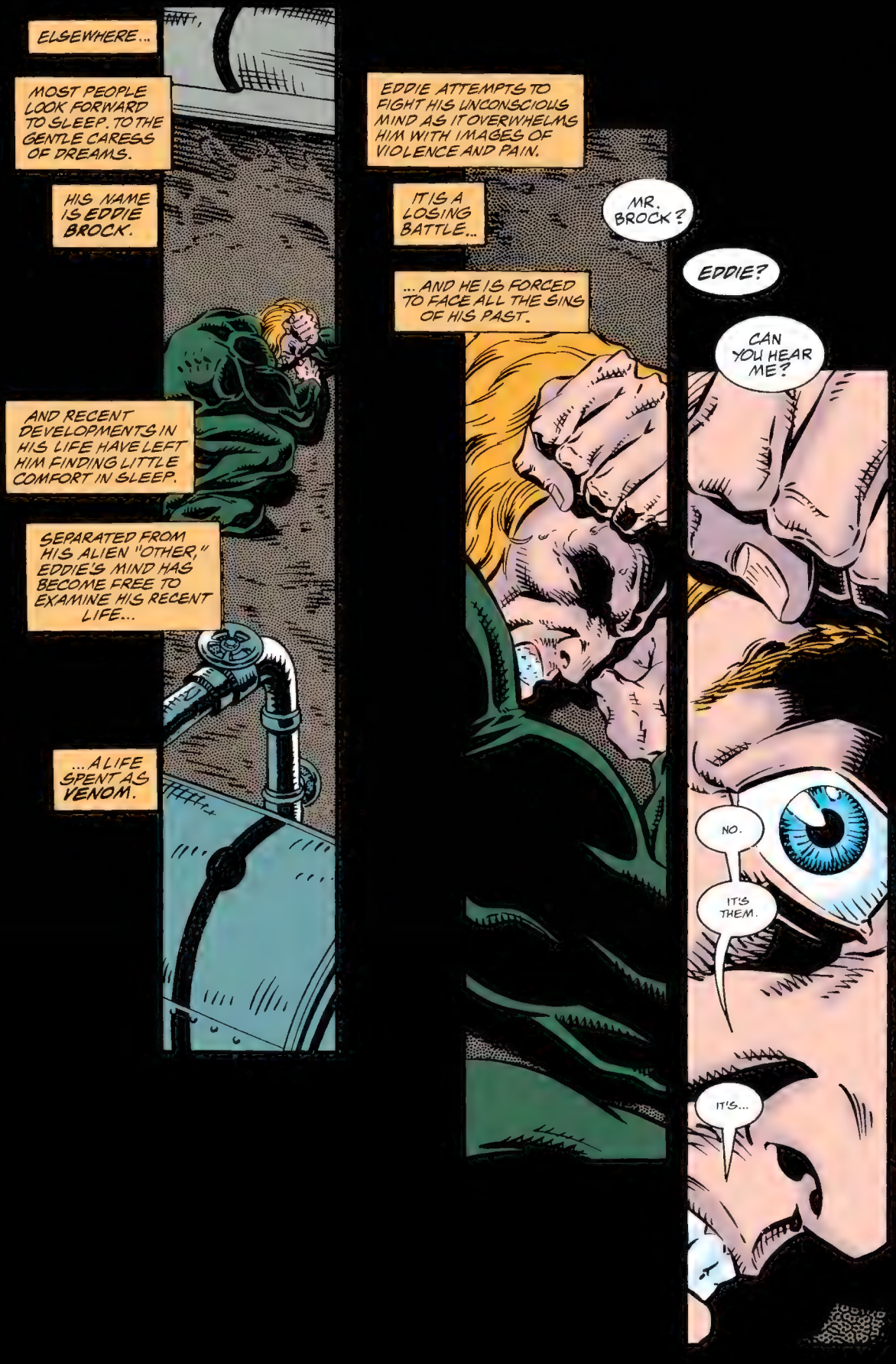
escape

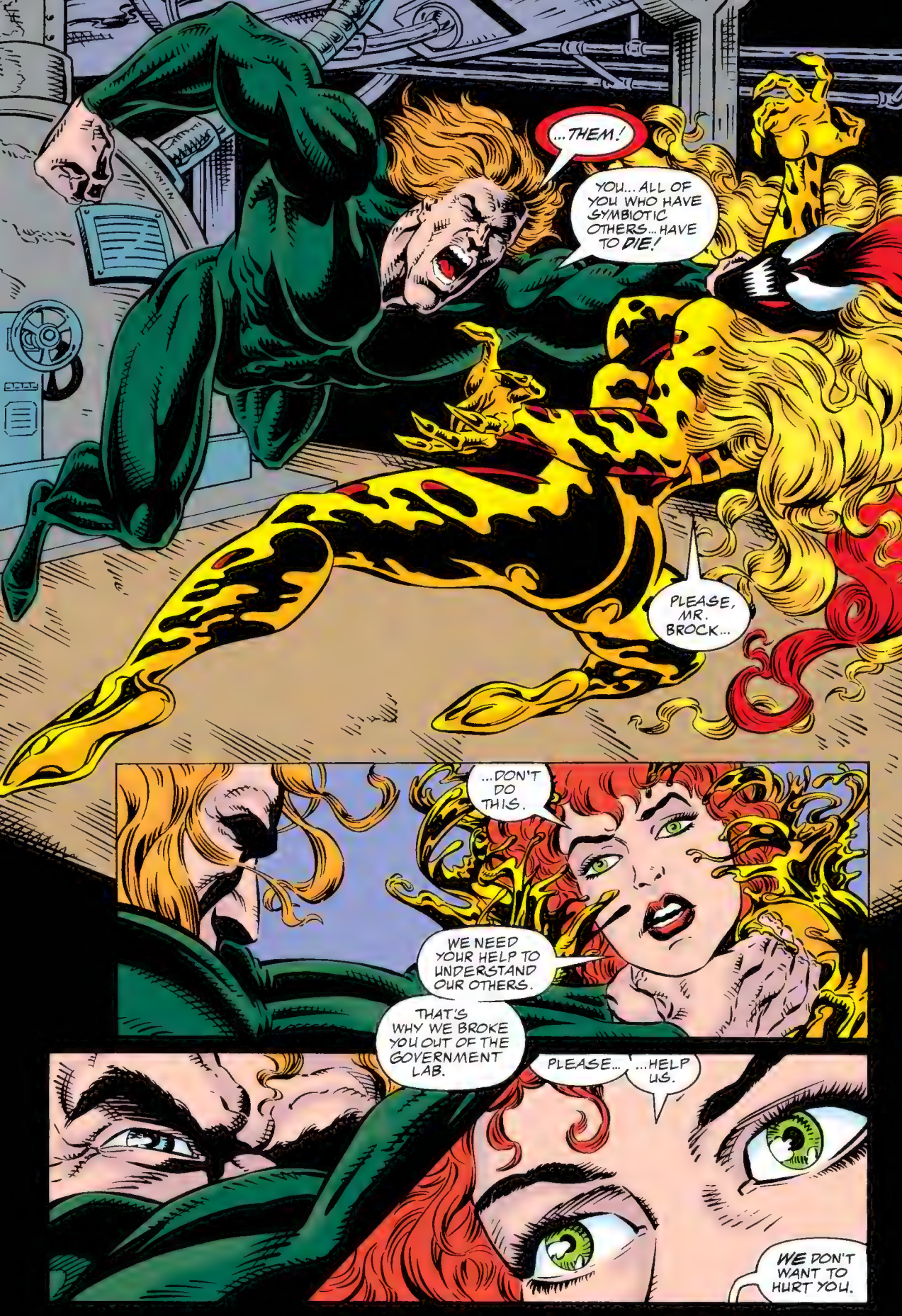
eddie

escape

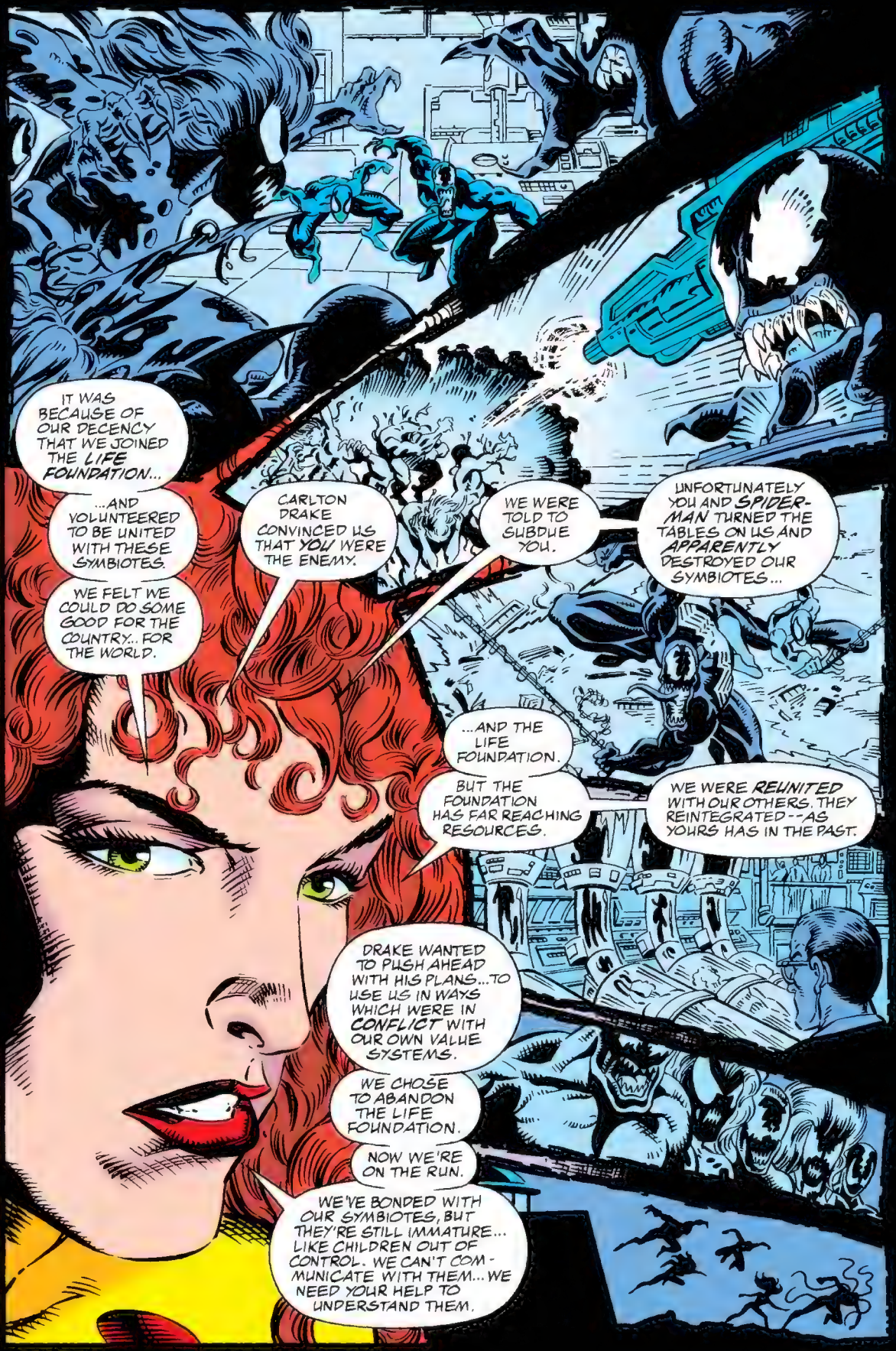
escape

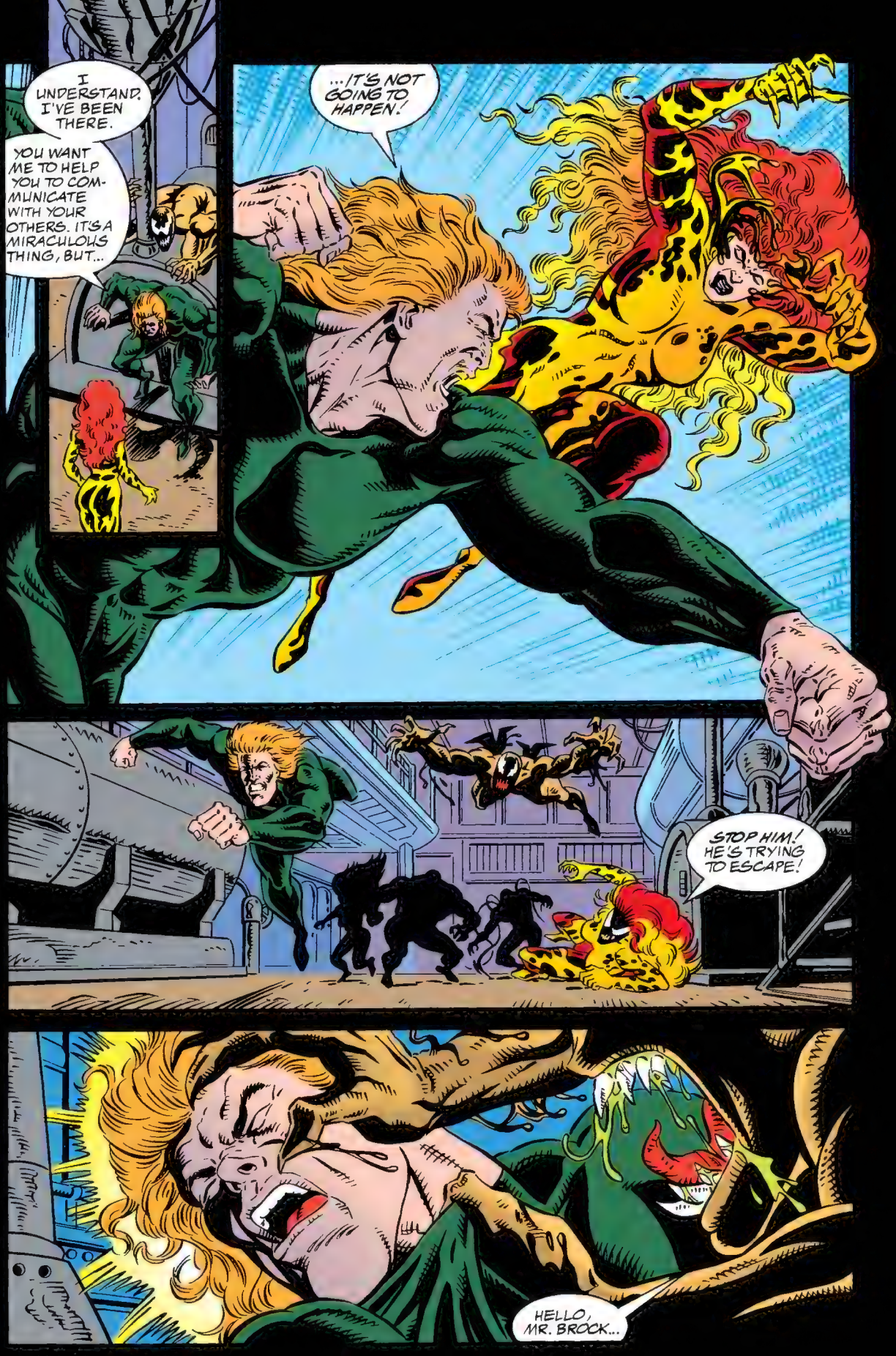
escape


ELSEWHERE...
MOST PEOPLE LOOK FORWARD TO SLEEP. TO THE GENTLE CARESS OF DREAMS.
HIS NAME IS EDDIE BROCK.
AND RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN HIS LIFE HAVE LEFT HIM FINDING LITTLE COMFORT IN SLEEP.
SEPARATED FROM HIS ALIEN "OTHER," EDDIE'S MIND HAS BECOME FREE TO EXAMINE HIS RECENT LIFE...
...A LIFE SPENT AS VENOM.
EDDIE ATTEMPTS TO FIGHT HIS UNCONSCIOUS MIND AS IT OVERWHELMS HIM WITH IMAGES OF VIOLENCE AND PAIN.
IT IS A LOSING BATTLE...
...AND HE IS FORCED TO FACE ALL THE SINS OF HIS PAST.
MR. BROCK?
EDDIE?
CAN YOU HEAR ME?
NO.
IT'S THEM.
IT'S...

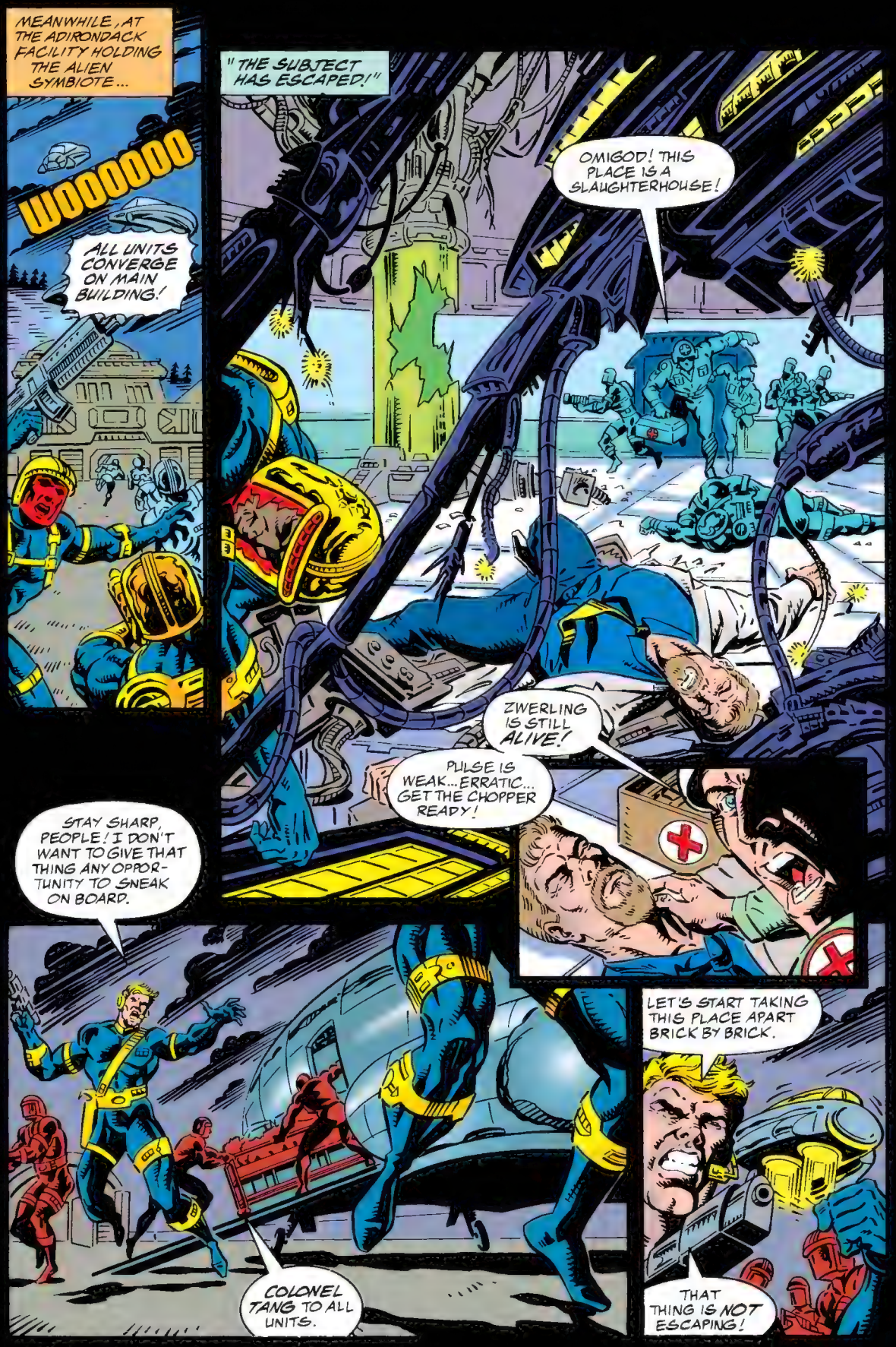

...THEM!
YOU... ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE SYMBIOTIC OTHERS... HAVE TO DIE!
PLEASE, MR. BROCK...
...DON'T DO THIS.
WE NEED YOUR HELP TO UNDERSTAND OUR OTHERS.
THAT'S WHY WE BROKE YOU OUT OF THE GOVERNMENT LAB.
PLEASE...
...HELP US.
WE DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU.

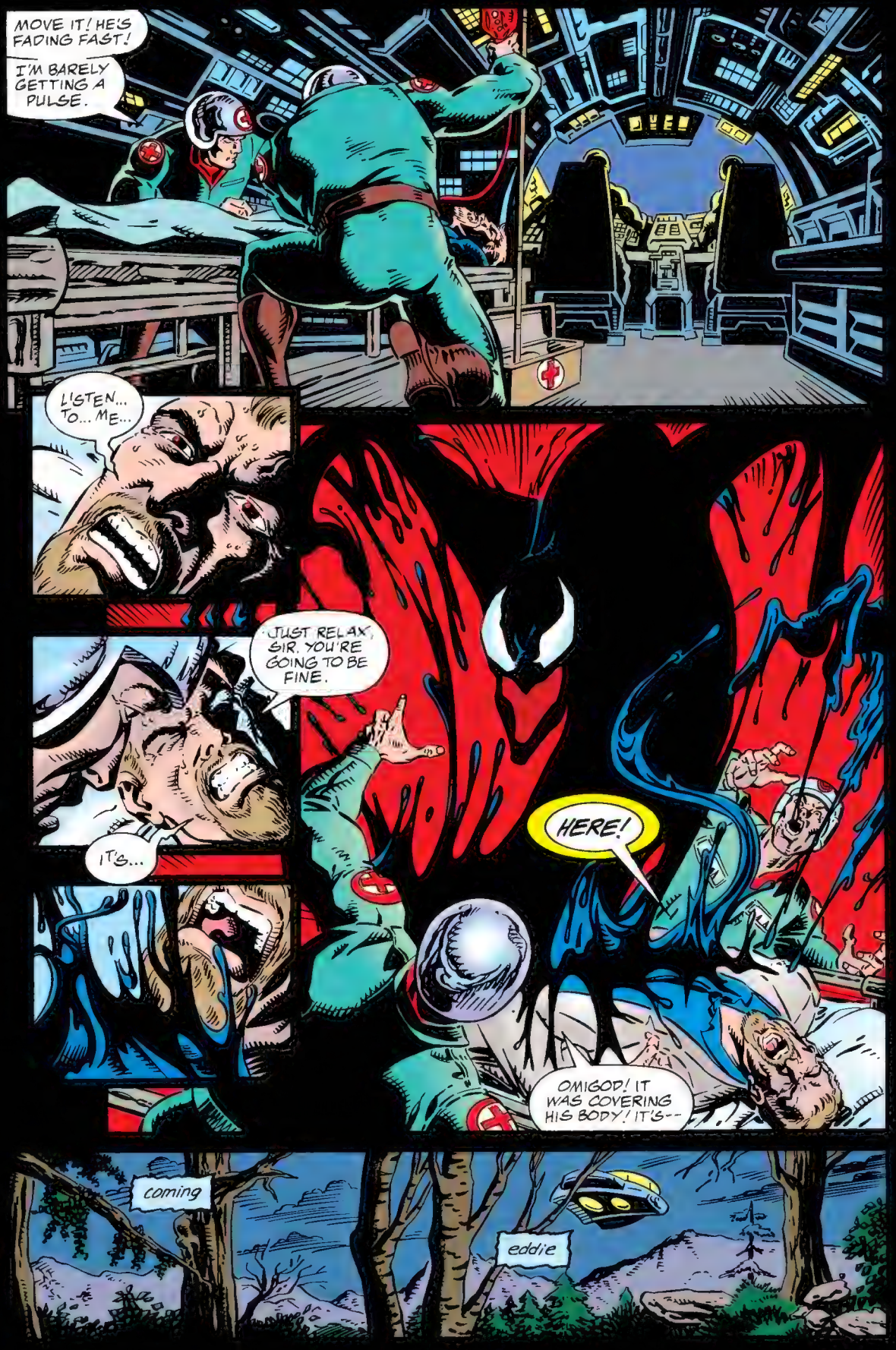
DON'T WANT TO HURT ME, HUH?
YOU SURE YOUR FRIENDS ALL AGREE?
I TRIED TO ASK FOR YOUR HELP BACK IN NEW YORK... BEFORE YOU GOT CAPTURED*.
PLEASE. WE ARE DECENT PEOPLE, MR. BROCK. WE REALLY ARE.
WE'RE DESPERATE, MR. BROCK.
DON'T BOTHER ANSWERING...
...I DON'T WANT TO KNOW.
I NEVER WANTED TO HURT ANYONE EITHER.
SOMEHOW I ALWAYS DID HURT THEM.
LEAVE ME ALONE. I CAN'T HELP YOU. MY OTHER IS GONE.
*SEE SPIDER-MAN #'S 52-53 AND WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #'S 118-119. --DANNY

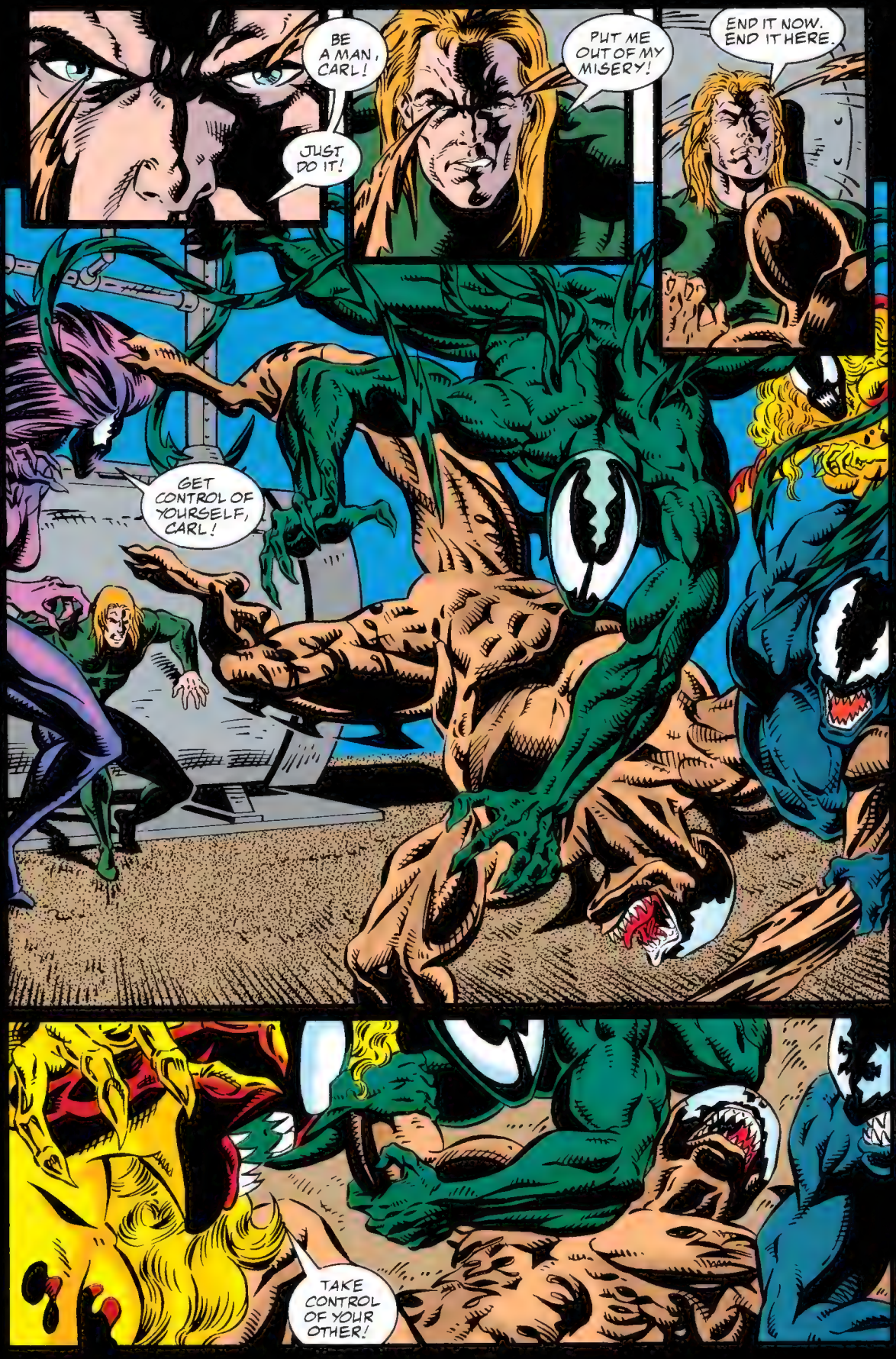

IT WAS BECAUSE OF OUR DECENCY THAT WE JOINED THE LIFE FOUNDATION...
...AND VOLUNTEERED TO BE UNITED WITH THESE SYMBIOTES.
WE FELT WE COULD DO SOME GOOD FOR THE COUNTRY... FOR THE WORLD.
CARLTON DRAKE CONVINCED US THAT YOU WERE THE ENEMY.
WE WERE TOLD TO SUBDUE YOU.
UNFORTUNATELY YOU AND SPIDER-MAN TURNED THE TABLES ON US AND APPARENTLY DESTROYED OUR SYMBIOTES...
...AND THE LIFE FOUNDATION.
BUT THE FOUNDATION HAS FAR REACHING RESOURCES.
WE WERE REUNITED WITH OUR OTHERS. THEY REINTEGRATED--AS YOURS HAS IN THE PAST.
DRAKE WANTED TO PUSH AHEAD WITH HIS PLANS...TO USE US IN WAYS WHICH WERE IN CONFLICT WITH OUR OWN VALUE SYSTEMS.
WE CHOSE TO ABANDON THE LIFE FOUNDATION.
NOW WE'RE ON THE RUN.
WE'VE BONDED WITH OUR SYMBIOTES, BUT THEY'RE STILL IMMATURE... LIKE CHILDREN OUT OF CONTROL. WE CAN'T COMMUNICATE WITH THEM... WE NEED YOUR HELP TO UNDERSTAND THEM.


I UNDERSTAND. I'VE BEEN THERE.
YOU WANT ME TO HELP YOU TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR OTHERS. IT'S A MIRACULOUS THING, BUT...
...IT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN!
STOP HIM! HE'S TRYING TO ESCAPE!
HELLO, MR. BROCK...

... MY NAME IS CARL!
WE TRIED TO REASON WITH YOU.
DONNA IS BIG INTO REASONING.
BUT I'VE FOUND THAT WHEN DEALING WITH PEOPLE LIKE YOU...
...REASONING DOESN'T WORK!
SO YOU ARE GOING TO HELP US, MR. BROCK!
I ASSURE YOU THAT YOU WILL SEE IT OUR WAY...
...OR YOU WON'T BE SEEING ANYTHING AT ALL!
CARL! STOP THIS! YOU'RE LOSING CONTROL TO YOUR OTHER!
STOP!
NO, CARL, COME ON! SHOW ME HOW DECENT YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS REALLY ARE!
HAHAHAHA!

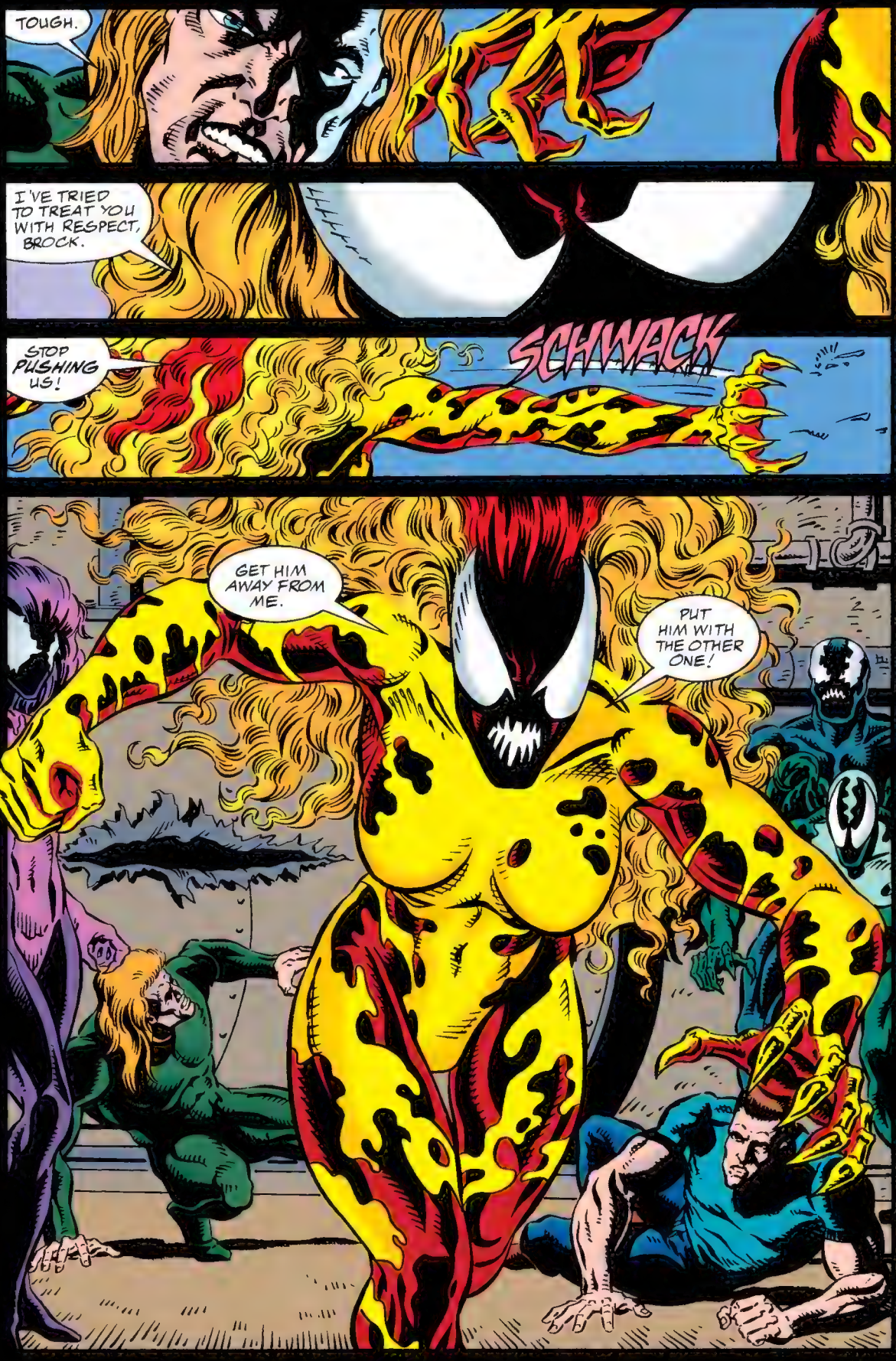

MEANWHILE, AT THE ADIRONDACK FACILITY HOLDING THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE...
WOOOOOO
ALL UNITS CONVERGE ON MAIN BUILDING!
"THE SUBJECT HAS ESCAPED!"
OMIGOD! THIS PLACE IS A SLAUGHTERHOUSE!
ZWERLING IS STILL ALIVE!
PULSE IS WEAK...ERRATIC... GET THE CHOPPER READY!
STAY SHARP, PEOPLE! I DON'T WANT TO GIVE THAT THING ANY OPPORTUNITY TO SNEAK ON BOARD.
COLONEL TANG TO ALL UNITS.
LET'S START TAKING THIS PLACE APART BRICK BY BRICK.
THAT THING IS NOT ESCAPING!

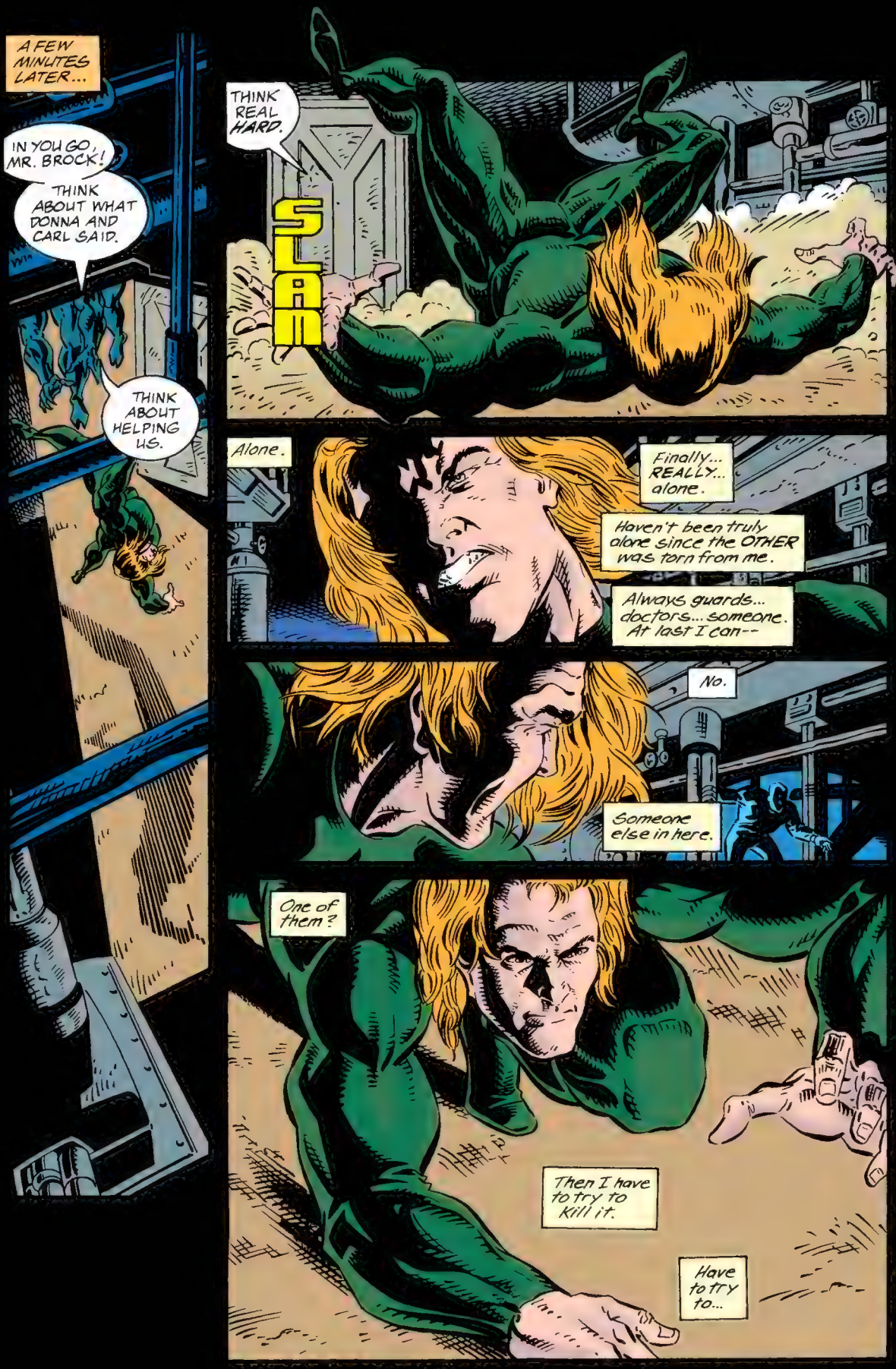

MOVE IT! HE'S FADING FAST!
I'M BARELY GETTING A PULSE.
LISTEN... TO... ME...
JUST RELAX, SIR. YOU'RE GOING TO BE FINE.
IT'S...
HERE!
OMIGOD! IT WAS COVERING HIS BODY! IT'S--
coming
eddie


BE A MAN, CARL!
JUST DO IT!
PUT ME OUT OF MY MISERY!
END IT NOW. END IT HERE.
GET CONTROL OF YOURSELF, CARL!
TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR OTHER!

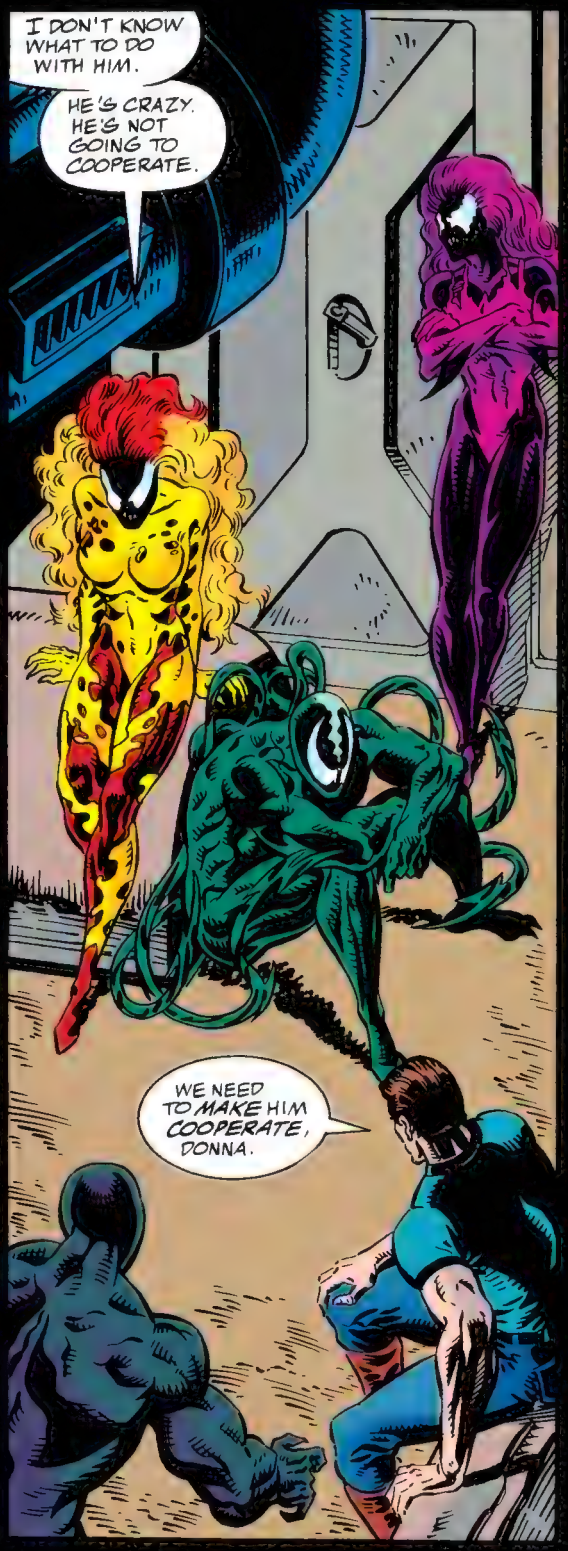
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN THE STRONGEST OF US ALL!
PLEASE, CARL...
...DO IT FOR ALL OF US!
FIGHT IT!
HURTS...
...SO...
...MUCH.

YOU DID IT, CARL. YOU CONTROLLED IT.
YOU WON.
BRAVO! BRAVO!
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE THE HERO TODAY, CARL!
BUT WHAT ABOUT TOMORROW?
DO NOT LAUGH AT US, MR. BROCK.
WE ARE TRYING VERY HARD TO STAY IN CONTROL AND YOU'RE NOT HELPING THE SITUATION.


TOUGH.
I'VE TRIED TO TREAT YOU WITH RESPECT, BROCK.
STOP PUSHING US!
SCHWACK
GET HIM AWAY FROM ME.
PUT HIM WITH THE OTHER ONE!


A FEW MINUTES LATER...
IN YOU GO, MR. BROCK!
THINK ABOUT WHAT DONNA AND CARL SAID.
THINK ABOUT HELPING US.
THINK REAL HARD.
SLAM
Alone.
Finally... REALLY... alone.
Haven't been truly alone since the OTHER was torn from me.
Always guards... doctors... someone. At last I can--
No.
Someone else in here.
One of them?
Then I have to try to kill it.
Have to try to...

...KILL THEM ALL!
NO!
WAIT! DON'T!
I'M NOT ONE OF THEM! IT'S ME, BROCK! ME!
ELLIS... THE REPORTER?
YEAH. NOW, ABOUT THAT INTERVIEW...?

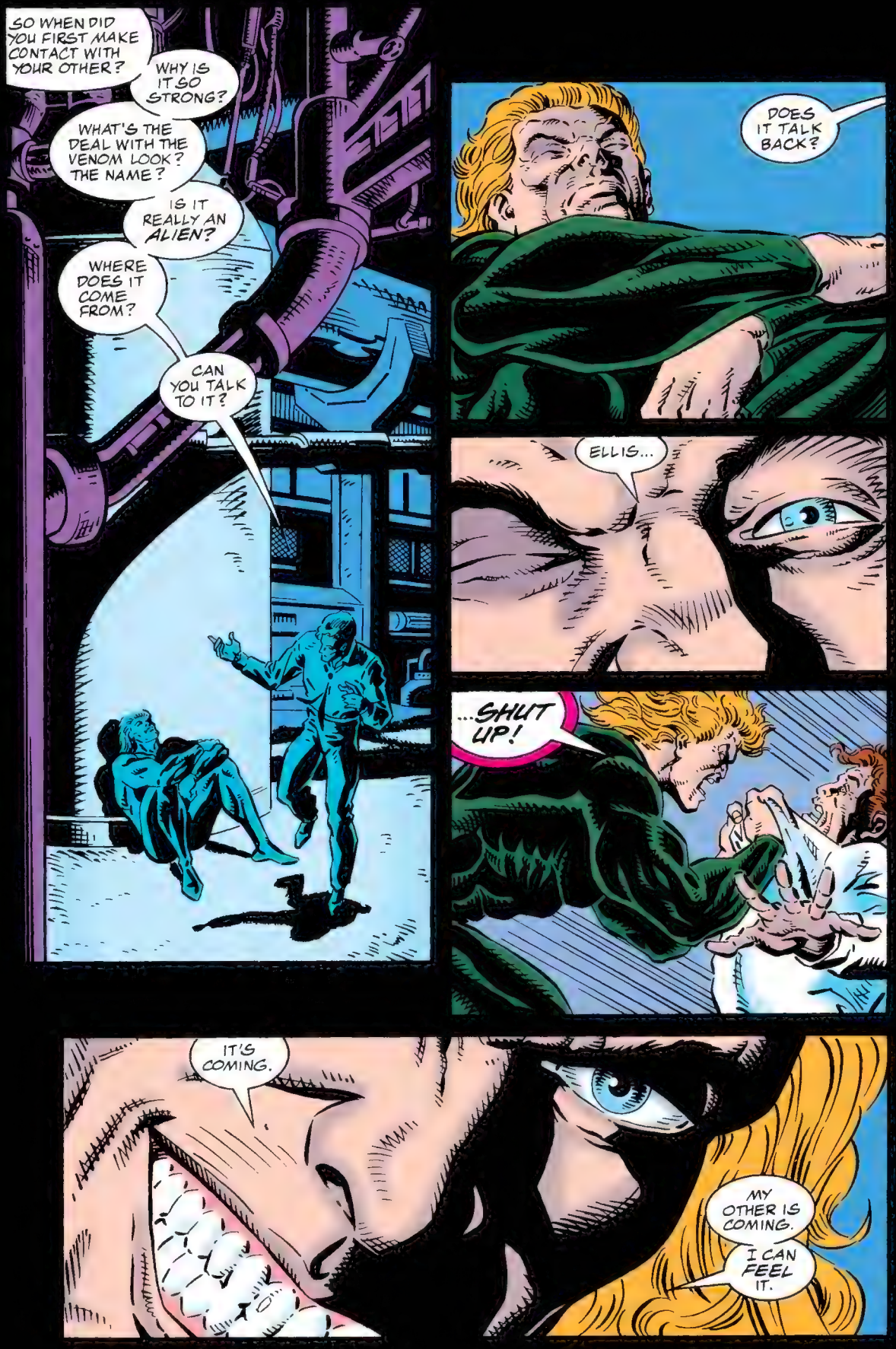

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH HIM.
HE'S CRAZY. HE'S NOT GOING TO COOPERATE.
WE NEED TO MAKE HIM COOPERATE, DONNA.

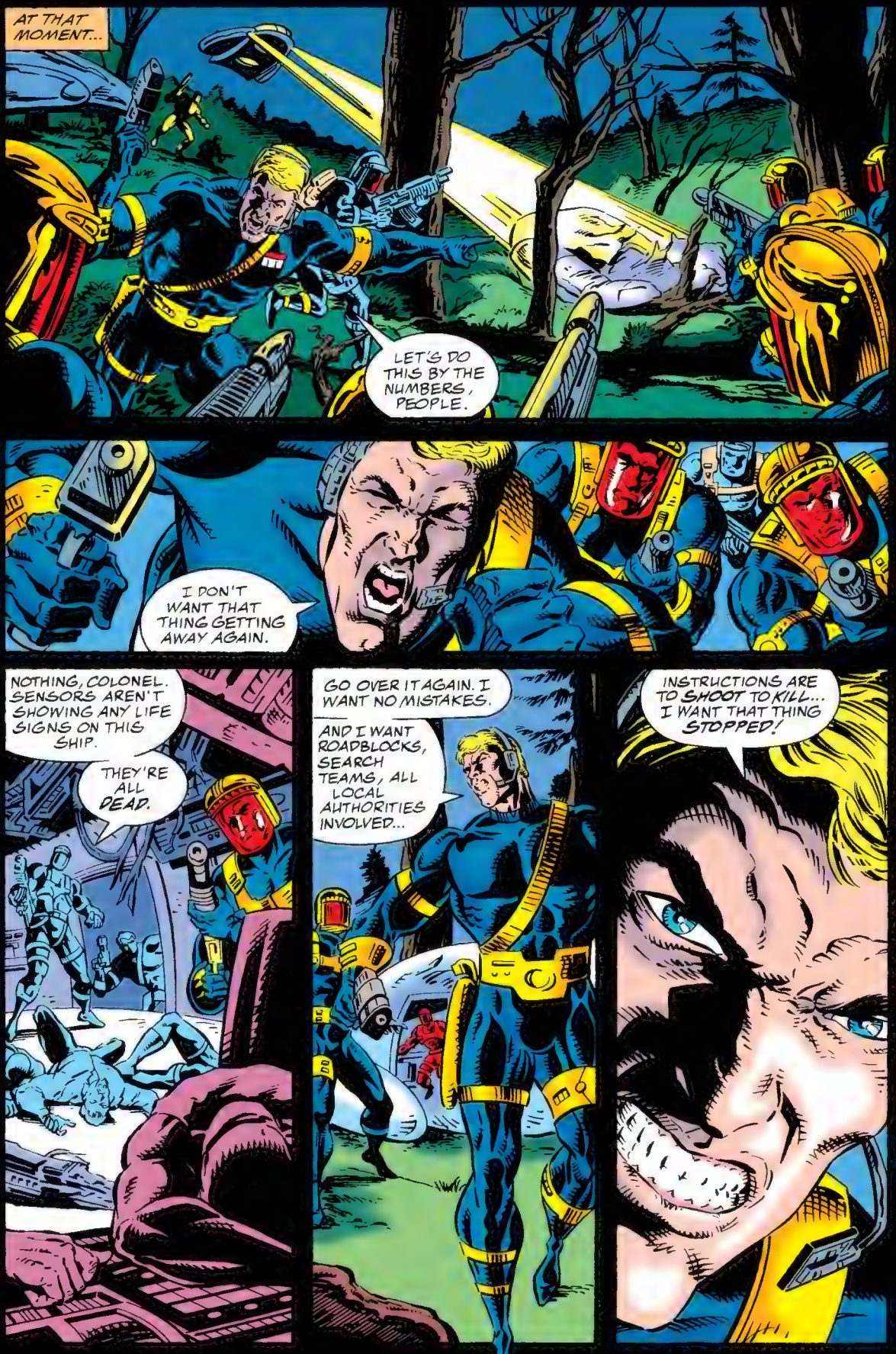
HOW, CARL?
HOW DO WE DO IT WITHOUT BECOMING HIM?

DO WE JUST GIVE IN TO THESE ALIEN COSTUMES... STOP FIGHTING THEM... STOP TRYING TO COMMUNICATE...
...SO THEY CAN TAKE OVER OUR LIVES!?

TIME IS AGAINST US, DONNA. YOU KNOW THE LIFE FOUNDATION ISN'T GOING TO LET US WALK AWAY WITH ONE OF THEIR TOP SECRET WEAPONS.
I DON'T WANT ANY PART OF THEIR ORGANIZATION ANYMORE.
BROCK IS OUR ONLY CHANCE.

THEN IT'S LOOKING LIKE WE DON'T STAND MUCH OF A CHANCE.
I'M TIRED OF TALKING ABOUT IT. I'M GOING TO GET SOME SLEEP.
YOU ALL SHOULD DO THE SAME.
IT'S GOING TO WORK OUT, CARL. WE'LL FIND A WAY TO BEAT THESE THINGS.
I HOPE SO, LESLIE.
I REALLY DO.


SO WHEN DID YOU FIRST MAKE CONTACT WITH YOUR OTHER?
WHY IS IT SO STRONG?
WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THE VENOM LOOK? THE NAME?
IS IT REALLY AN ALIEN?
WHERE DOES IT COME FROM?
CAN YOU TALK TO IT?
DOES IT TALK BACK?
ELLIS...
...SHUT UP!
IT'S COMING.
MY OTHER IS COMING.
I CAN FEEL IT.


AT THAT MOMENT...
LET'S DO THIS BY THE NUMBERS, PEOPLE.
I DON'T WANT THAT THING GETTING AWAY AGAIN.
NOTHING, COLONEL. SENSORS AREN'T SHOWING ANY LIFE SIGNS ON THIS SHIP.
THEY'RE ALL DEAD.
GO OVER IT AGAIN. I WANT NO MISTAKES.
AND I WANT ROADBLOCKS, SEARCH TEAMS, ALL LOCAL AUTHORITIES INVOLVED...
INSTRUCTIONS ARE TO SHOOT TO KILL... I WANT THAT THING STOPPED!

MEANWHILE...
A FEW MILES AWAY ON A DARK AND LONELY STRETCH OF HIGHWAY...
coming
coming
for
you.
CONTINUED NEXT MONTH!

MARVEL
COMICS
VENOM
SEPARATION ANXIETY
PART 3 OF 4
3
FEB
SYMBIOTE
SIEGE!

THE SOUTH SIDE OF CHICAGO...
OOO-AH! TIME TO PULL THIS PUPPY OVER.
EXIT
NEED SOME FOOD AND COFFEE AND I'LL BE AS GOOD AS NEW.
FOOD
REALLY HAULED IT FROM BACK EAST.
GOT OUT OF THE MOUNTAINS JUS' IN TIME.
TRUCKERS TALKIN' OVER THE CB COMPLAININ' ABOUT SOME ROADBLOCKS... HAVIN' THEIR RIGS SEARCHED...
EAT
YEAH, I GOT OUT IN THE NICK OF TIME--
WHAT THE--?
SHUT UP OR I'LL BLOW YOUR HEAD OFF!

NOT A PROBLEM. TAKE THE RIG... IT'S YOURS... NOT WORTH MY LIFE.
DIDN'T THINK SO, TRUCKER BOY.
I WANT YOU TO OPEN EVERYTHING UP.
NICE AND SLOW OR YOU'RE A DEAD MAN.
FINE.
JUST DON'T HURT ME.
I'VE GOT A WIFE AND KIDS.
I-- WHAT...?
WHAT IS THAT THING, RALPH?

STAN LEE PRESENTS: VENOM
SEPARATION ANXIETY, PART 3

PARTING IS SUCH SWEET SORROW

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EDITOR

BOB BUDIANSKY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

find eddie
bond with him again
be whole
be VENOM
BKOOM
GOT HIM! I GOT HIM!
SUCKER'S GOING TO BE BLEEDING ALL OVER THE PAVEMENT.

HE'S GOING TO...
WHAT THE--?
IT AIN'T HUMAN!
must find eddie
men with fire to hurt me
others pursue us
EAT
eddie will help
with eddie we are venom
we are strong
these stand in my way
they are nothing
they can die

this host body is no good
is weak
is scared
is not eddie
OMIGOD.
coming
eddie
we will be venom again
soon...

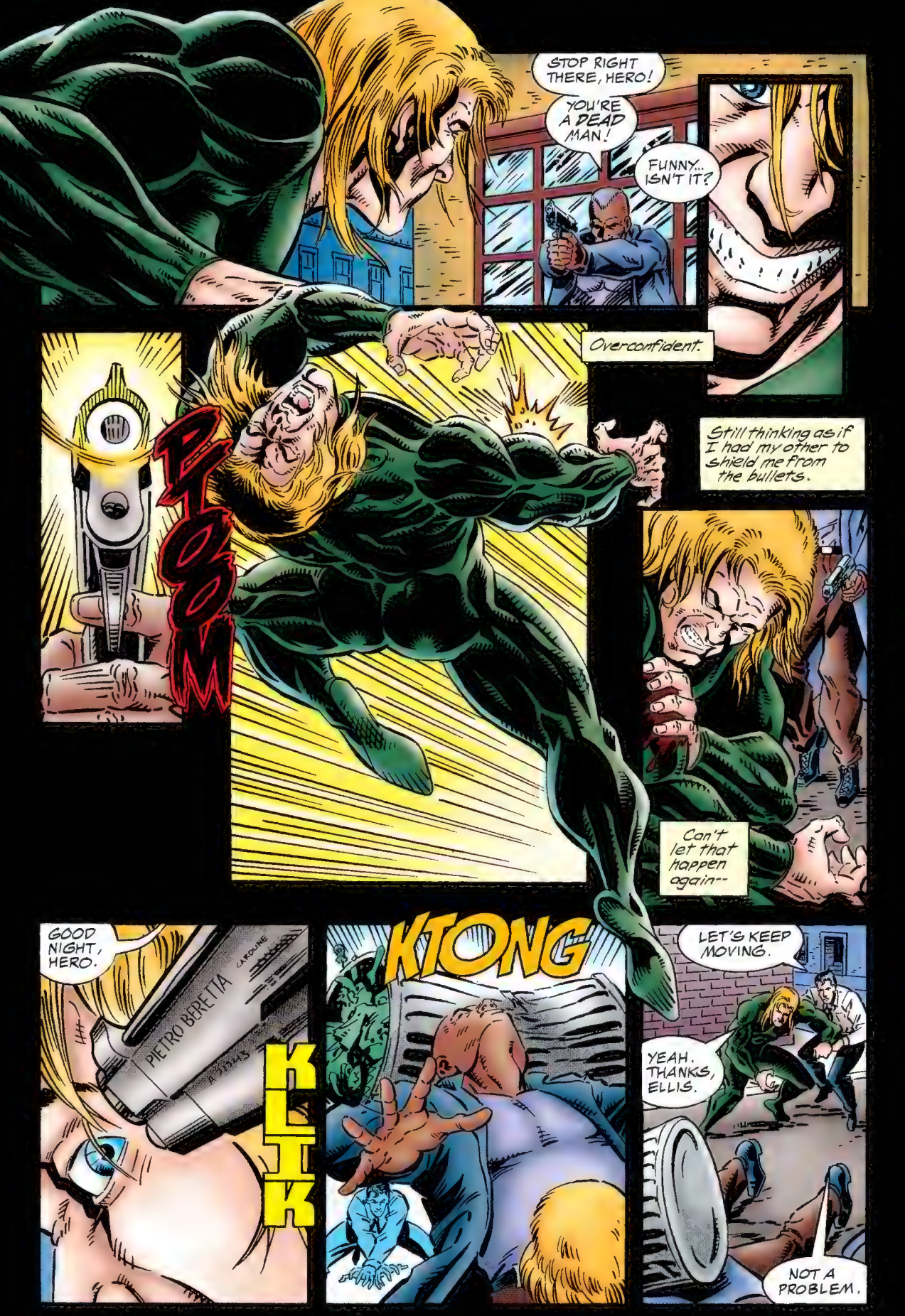
...very soon, eddie
WHO IS THAT PRETTY GIRL IN THE MIRROR THERE?
WHO CAN THAT PRETTY GIRL BE?
SUCH A PRETTY FACE... SUCH A PRETTY SMILE... SUCH A PRETTY...
...ME.
WHAT AM I DOING HERE IN AN ABANDONED FACTORY IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE?
I WAS GOING TO DO SOMETHING WITH MY LIFE.
HELP PEOPLE.
WHAT AM I ALLOWING THIS LIVING COSTUME TO TURN ME INTO?
AM I GOING TO TURN OUT LIKE...
...BROCK.

LATER...
CLONG
OKAY, BROCK! RISE AND SHINE!
TIME TO START UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF LAST NIGHT!
BROCK? WHERE ARE YOU HIDING, YOU...
BROCK!
BROCK!

"...HE'S GONE!"
Got to keep moving.
Got to get away... find my other... come back...
... and kill the five symbiotes that we have spawned.
Got to get away.
BROCK! WAIT!
PLEASE.
FORGET IT... CAN'T KEEP UP WITH HIM.
EVEN WITHOUT THE SYMBIOTIC COSTUME HE'S STRONGER AND FASTER THAN A NORMAL HUMAN...
...NOT TO MENTION A COMPLETE AND TOTAL PSYCHOPATH!
SO EXACTLY WHY IS IT THAT I'M FOLLOWING HIM?
MAYBE IT'S TIME TO FORGET THE STORY AND CALL THE POLICE.
COME ON, ELLIS, FORGET THE BLASTED STORY... JUST GO FIND THE PO--

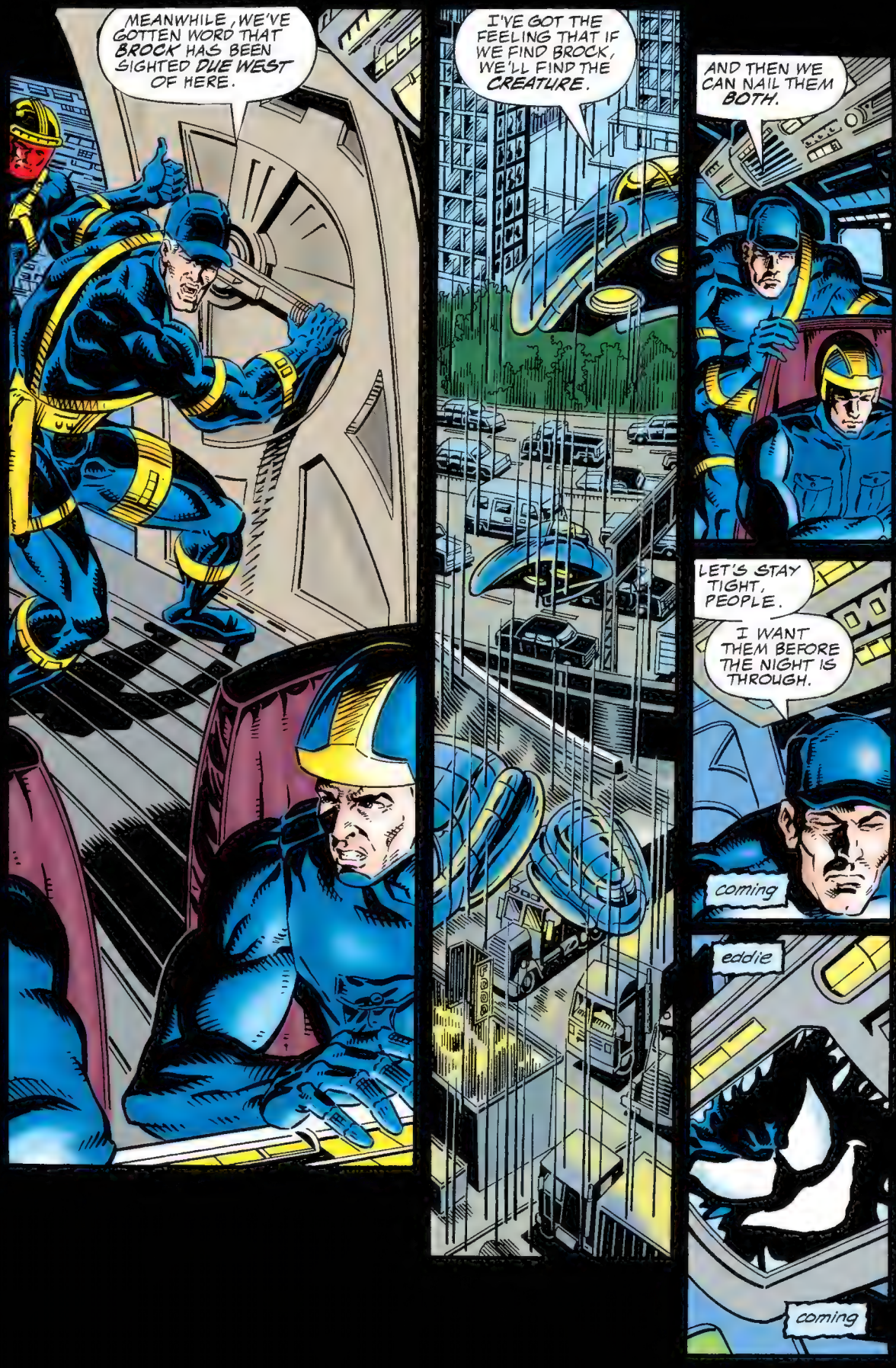
OOOH! LOOKIE HERE, BOYS! A PRETTY LITTLE THING LOST IN OUR TRASH.
GUYS. I DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE.
YOU WANT CASH... IT'S YOURS.
I'M SORRY I GOT LOST IN YOUR 'HOOD, BUT...
DO NOT TALK DOWN TO ME!
I'M NOT STUPID!
JUST MEAN.
KRAK
YOU KNOW, I'VE HEARD AN EXPRESSION...

"GUNS DON'T KILL PEOPLE."
"PEOPLE KILL PEOPLE."
AND THAT PRETTY MUCH SUMS UP MY LIFE FOR THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS.
WASTE HIM!
This feels good.
Still have some of the old strength... the old moves...
...the old ANGER!
Maybe I can go on WITHOUT my other?
Maybe I can redeem myself?
Maybe I can be a HERO?


STOP RIGHT THERE, HERO!
YOU'RE A DEAD MAN!
FUNNY.. ISN'T IT?
Overconfident.
BOOM
Still thinking as if I had my other to shield me from the bullets.
Can't let that happen again--
GOOD NIGHT, HERO.
PIETRO BERETTA
CAL. 9 PARABELLUM
KLIK
KTONG
LET'S KEEP MOVING.
YEAH. THANKS, ELLIS.
NOT A PROBLEM.

MEANWHILE...
SHE'S DEAD.
HE KILLED LESLIE.
BROCK IS A PSYCHOPATH. HE'S GOT TO DIE...
...TONIGHT!

CHICAGO.
I DON'T KNOW WHICH WAY IT WENT.
WHEN IT WAS ON ME... IT WAS ALMOST AS THOUGH I COULD HEAR IT.
IT JUST KEPT SAYING ONE NAME OVER AND OVER AGAIN.
EDDIE.
LET'S MOVE IT, PEOPLE!
WE'VE GOT US A FUGITIVE TO APPREHEND.
WE'VE GOT PEOPLE ALL OVER THIS SECTOR.
IF IT'S HERE... IT'S OURS!
FOOD
FAT


MEANWHILE, WE'VE GOTTEN WORD THAT BROCK HAS BEEN SIGHTED DUE WEST OF HERE.
I'VE GOT THE FEELING THAT IF WE FIND BROCK, WE'LL FIND THE CREATURE.
AND THEN WE CAN NAIL THEM BOTH.
LET'S STAY TIGHT, PEOPLE.
I WANT THEM BEFORE THE NIGHT IS THROUGH.
coming
eddie
coming

A SHORT TIME LATER...
CRAK
WE'RE IN!
COME ON, ELLIS. WE CAN REST HERE.
CLOSE THE DOOR BEHIND YOU.
YOU OKAY, BROCK?
YEAH. YEAH. JUST A LITTLE TIRED.
JUST NEED TO CATCH MY BREATH IS...
...ALL--

A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY...
THERE!
MORE OF BROCK'S HANDIWORK!
THE MURDERING PSYCHOPATH HAS GOT TO BE FOUND!
GOT TO BE STOPPED!
HAS TO DIE!
DON'T DO THIS TO YOURSELF, CARL. WE STILL MAY NEED HIM.
LOOK AT HOW YOU'RE LOSING CONTROL AGAIN.
BROCK MAY BE A PSYCHO, BUT SOMEHOW HE AND HIS SYMBIOTE CAN COMMUNICATE.
WE'VE GOT TO LEARN HOW. WE'RE BETTER... MORE DECENT THAN BROCK... IF WE COULD JUST LEARN TO COMMUNICATE WITH OUR--WAIT!
I CAN SENSE HIM! BROCK... HE'S NEARBY!
LET'S JUST FIND HIM AND TRY NOT TO KILL HIM.
I'LL TRY.

THEY'RE COMING, ELLIS.
STAY STILL.
YOU LOST A LOT OF BLOOD, BUT I'VE STOPPED THE FLOW WITH A FIRST AID KIT I FOUND.
YOU'VE GOT TO TRY TO TAKE IT EASY.
NOT AN OPTION.
I CAN SENSE THE OTHERS APPROACHING. WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE--
THKOOM
MOVE IT OR LOSE IT, ELLIS.
WE'LL FAN OUT.
AND EVERYONE STAY IN CONTROL.

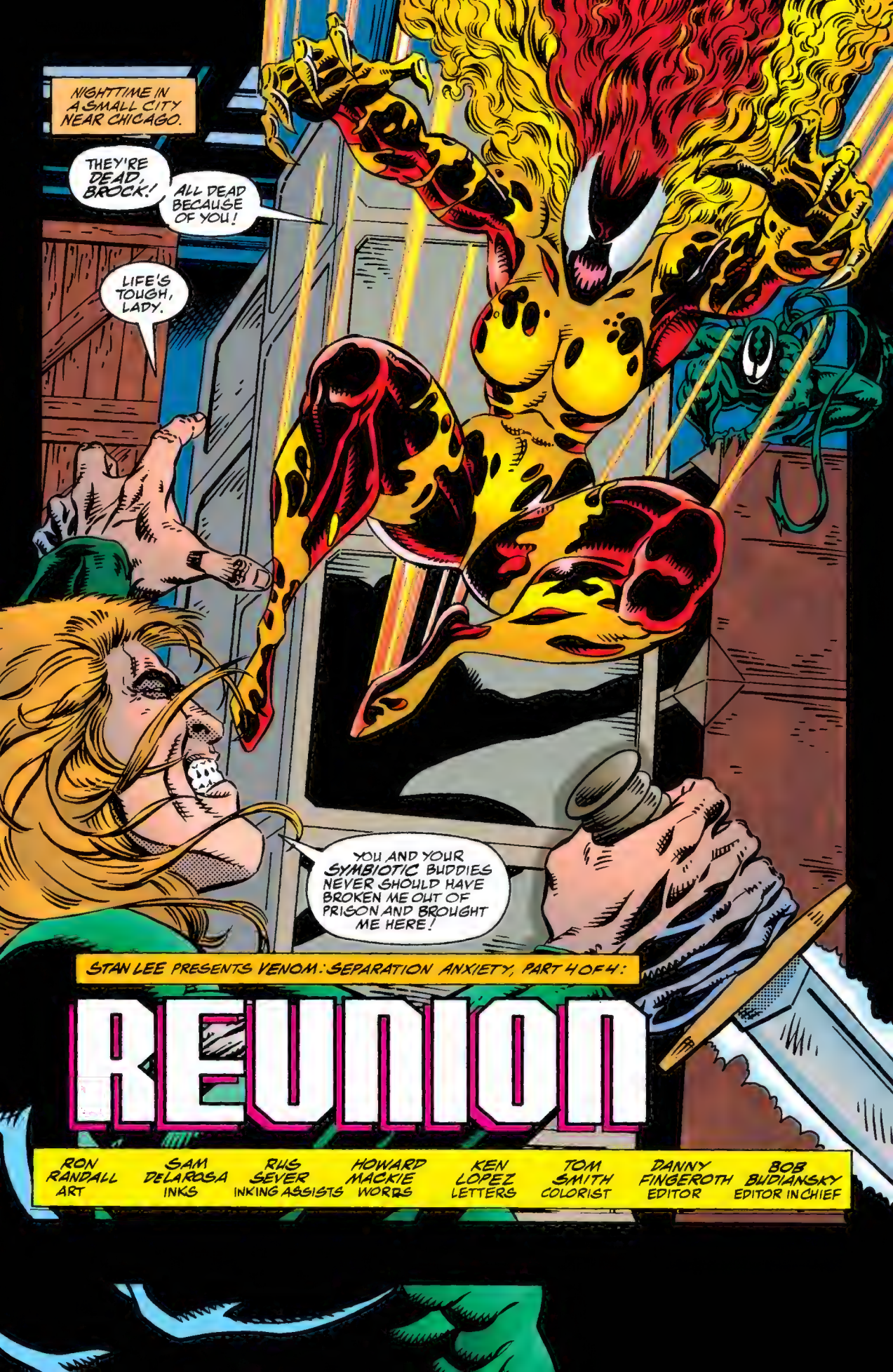
STOP. ONE OF THEM IS NEARBY. I CAN FEEL IT.
COME ON, BROCK. ALL WE WANT TO DO IS TALK WITH YOU.
THERE YOU ARE!
YOU NEVER SHOULD HAVE KILLED HER, BROCK!
SHE WAS ONE OF US.
IF YOU WOULD HAVE JUST TALKED TO US LIKE A REASONABLE MAN...
...EVERYTHING COULD HAVE GONE SO MUCH MORE EASILY FOR ALL OF US.
GOT TO DO SOMETHING. GOT TO TRY.

YOU'RE MAKING ME ANGRY, BROCK!
I'M LOSING CONTROL!
YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A PERSON AND A SYMBIOTE LOSE CONTROL!?
OF COURSE YOU DO!
WHAT--?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? A KNIFE CAN'T HURT US. IT--
SHWIK

NOOOO!
BROCK.
WHAT...
...DID...
...YOU...
...DO?
He's dead.
How could the knife penetrate through his other? Unless...
Got to take a closer look.

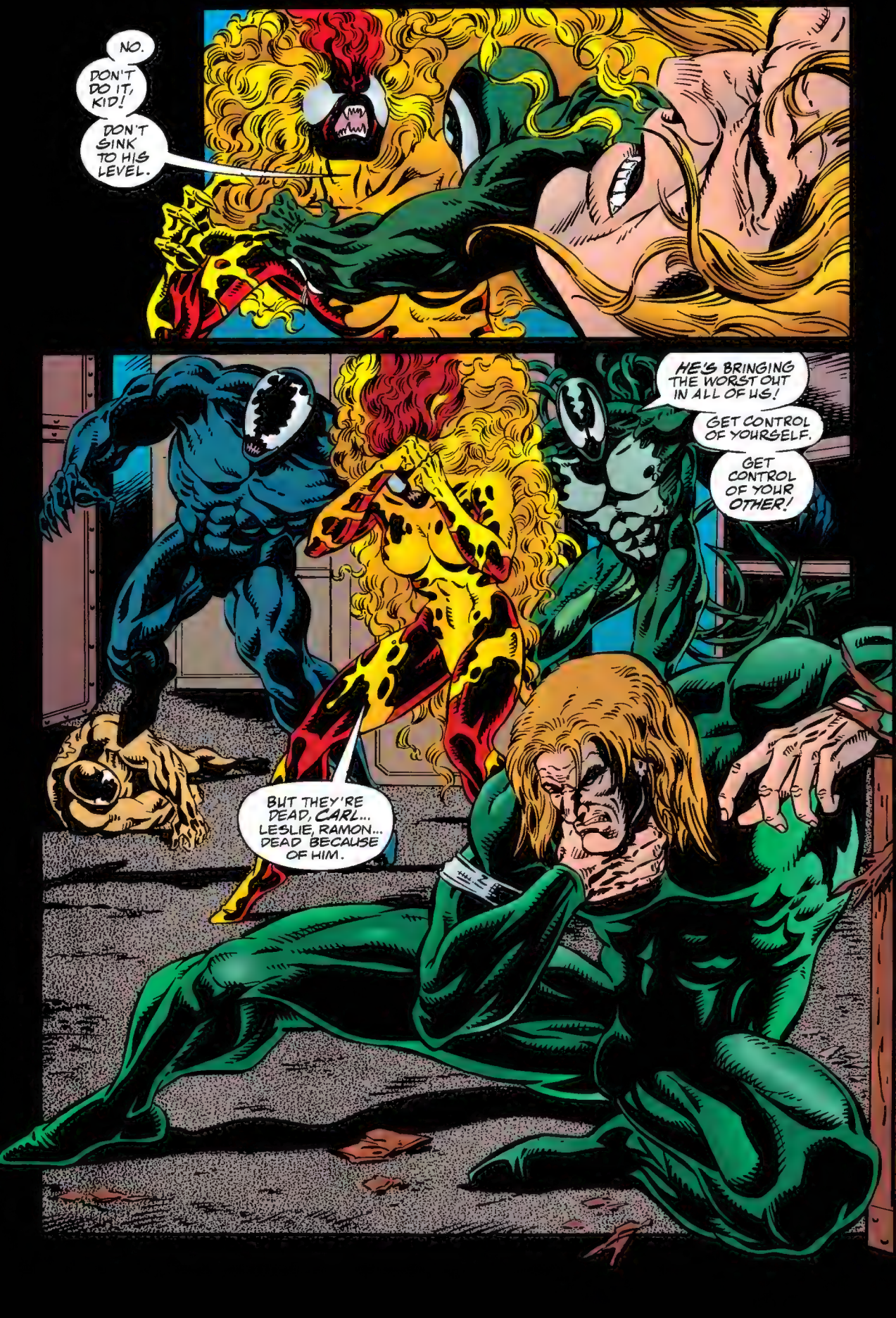
MURDERER!
CARL IS RIGHT!
BROCK, YOU DON'T DESERVE TO LIVE!
THE TIME FOR TALKING IS OVER!
CONCLUDED NEXT MONTH!

MARVEL COMICS
4
MAR
VENOM
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SEPARATION ANXIETY
PART 4 OF 4
RANDALL
DEADLY REUNION!


NIGHTTIME IN A SMALL CITY NEAR CHICAGO.
THEY'RE DEAD, BROCK!
ALL DEAD BECAUSE OF YOU!
LIFE'S TOUGH, LADY.
YOU AND YOUR SYMBIOTIC BUDDIES NEVER SHOULD HAVE BROKEN ME OUT OF PRISON AND BROUGHT ME HERE!
STAN LEE PRESENTS VENOM: SEPARATION ANXIETY, PART 4 OF 4:
REUNION
RON RANDALL ART
SAM DELAROSA INKS
RUS SEVER INKING ASSISTS
HOWARD MACKIE WORDS
KEN LOPEZ LETTERS
TOM SMITH COLORIST
DANNY FINGEROTH EDITOR
BOB BUDIANSKY EDITOR IN CHIEF

AFTER TONIGHT, LIFE IS NOT SOMETHING WITH WHICH YOU ARE GOING TO NEED TO CONCERN YOURSELF!
DONNA, I KNOW YOU WON'T BELIEVE ME...
...BUT I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH KILLING YOUR FRIENDS!
LIAR!
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!
WHETHER YOU PUT THE SONIC BLADE INTO THEM OR NOT!

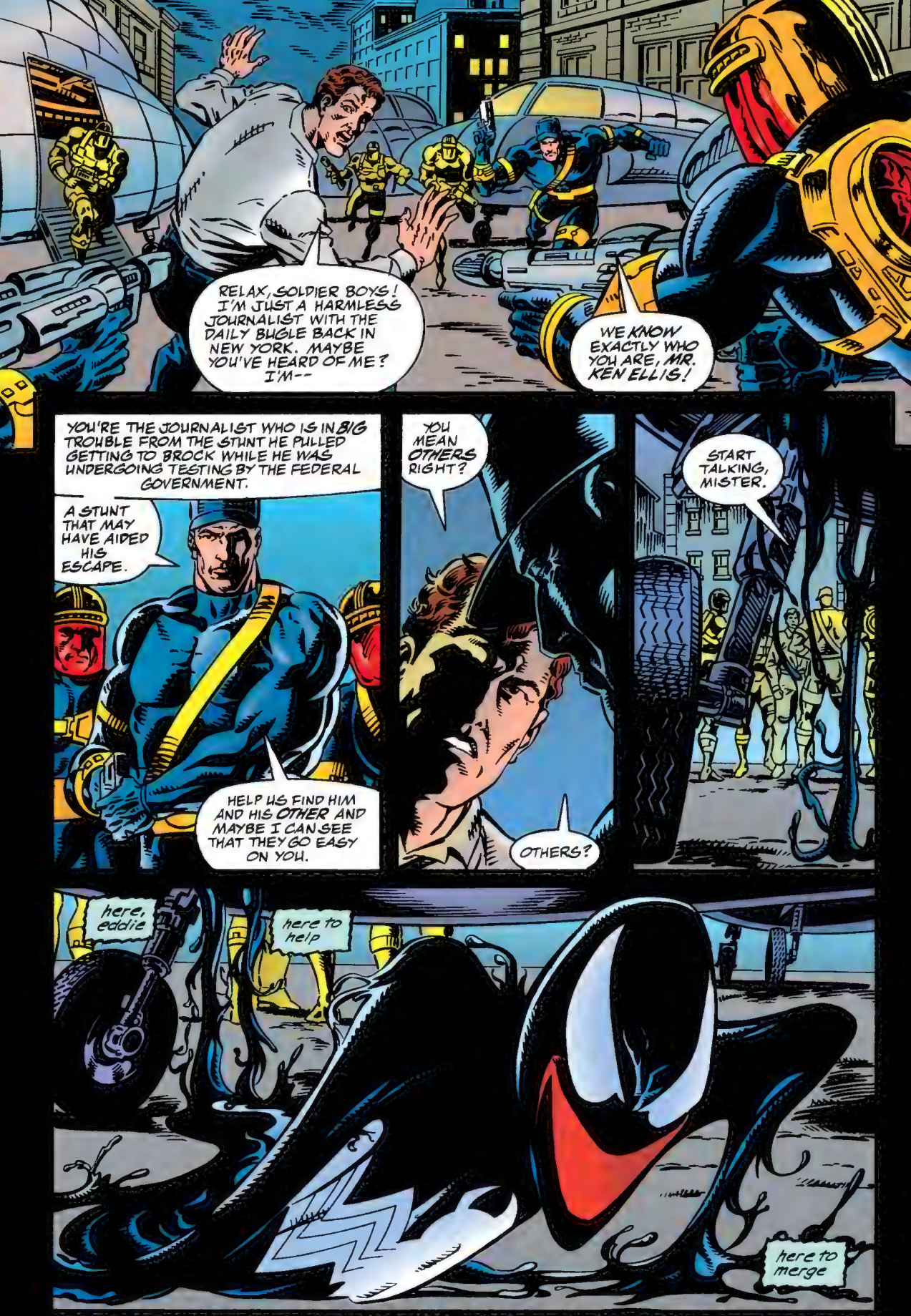
I SHOULD HAVE DONE THIS RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING!
WE'LL WORK WITHOUT YOU, BROCK!
FIND THE SECRETS OF COMMUNICATING WITH OUR OTHERS WHILE YOU ARE ROTTING IN YOUR GRAVE.
FINE...
WHAT I...
DESERVE...


NO.
DON'T DO IT, KID!
DON'T SINK TO HIS LEVEL.
HE'S BRINGING THE WORST OUT IN ALL OF US!
GET CONTROL OF YOURSELF.
GET CONTROL OF YOUR OTHER!
BUT THEY'RE DEAD, CARL... LESLIE, RAMON... DEAD BECAUSE OF HIM.

I KNOW KID.
ALL ANY OF US EVER WANTED WAS TO DO SOME GOOD...
...LEARN TO CONTROL THE SYMBIOTES.
BUT THIS PSYCHO...
I DIDN'T KILL THEM!
NOT THAT I WOULDN'T HAVE LIKED THE OPPORTUNITY.
KRAK

AT THE OTHER END OF THE WAREHOUSE...
COME ON! COME... ON!
KLANG
GOT TO GET AWAY FROM THOSE THINGS.
GOT TO RUN AS IF MY LIFE DEPENDS ON IT...
...BECAUSE IT DOES!
I'VE PUT MYSELF INTO A LOT OF NASTY SITUATIONS TRYING TO GET A STORY...
...BEEN SCARED...
...BUT NEVER THIS SCARED!

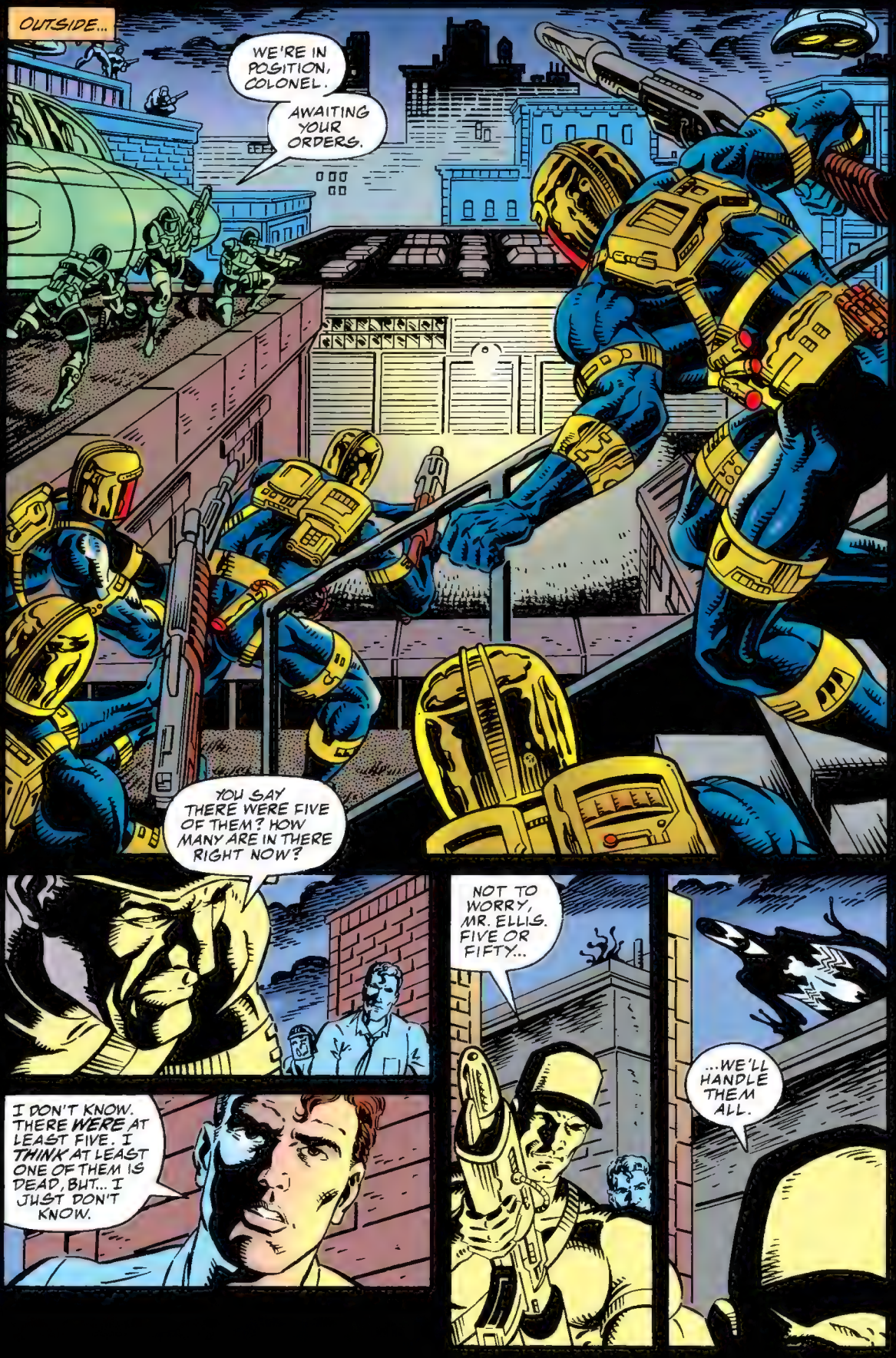
WHAT THE--?
THE LIGHT: HOW COULD THEY...?
YOU ON THE GROUND!
STAND FAST.
KEEP YOUR HANDS IN SIGHT AT ALL TIMES.
WE ARE FEDERAL AGENTS!
THANK YOU.


RELAX, SOLDIER BOYS! I'M JUST A HARMLESS JOURNALIST WITH THE DAILY BUGLE BACK IN NEW YORK. MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD OF ME? I'M--
WE KNOW EXACTLY WHO YOU ARE, MR. KEN ELLIS!
YOU'RE THE JOURNALIST WHO IS IN BIG TROUBLE FROM THE STUNT HE PULLED GETTING TO BROCK WHILE HE WAS UNDERGOING TESTING BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.
A STUNT THAT MAY HAVE AIDED HIS ESCAPE.
HELP US FIND HIM AND HIS OTHER AND MAYBE I CAN SEE THAT THEY GO EASY ON YOU.
YOU MEAN OTHERS RIGHT?
OTHERS?
START TALKING, MISTER.
here, eddie
here to help
here to merge

MEANWHILE...
WAKE UP, BROCK!
TIME TO HAVE A FINAL CHAT.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? WOULD YOU RATHER NOT BE HERE WHILE CARL AND I QUESTION HIM?
I'M FINE, TREVOR.
REALLY...
...I'M FINE.
LET'S JUST GET THIS OVER WITH.
I AGREE.
KILL ME NOW AND LET'S BE DONE WITH IT.

YOU JUST DON'T GET IT?
WE DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU!
THAT WOULD MAKE US LIKE YOU!
ALL WE WANT IS TO COMMUNICATE WITH OUR OTHERS... TO LEARN TO CONTROL THEM.
WE WANT TO USE THEM TO DO SOME GOOD... A CONCEPT THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE TROUBLE UNDERSTANDING.
EVERY DAY IT BECOMES HARDER TO CONTROL THEM.
EVERY DAY WE FEEL LIKE WE GIVE UP ANOTHER PIECE OF OUR SOULS TO THEM.
WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THEM, BROCK.
WE WANT TO UNDERSTAND THEM.

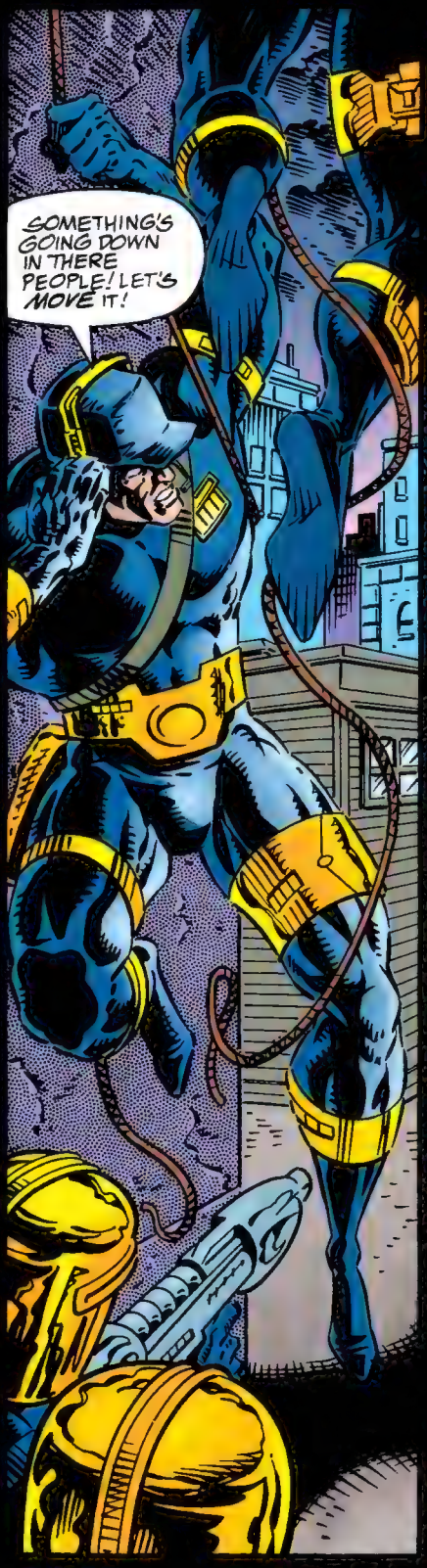
ALL I'M ASKING IS... IF THERE IS A SHRED OF DECENCY LEFT IN YOU... IF YOU HAVE ANY DESIRE TO ATONE FOR YOUR SINS... THE LIVES YOU DESTROYED... THOSE YOU HAVE TAKEN...
... PLEASE... PLEASE... HELP US.
I... I...

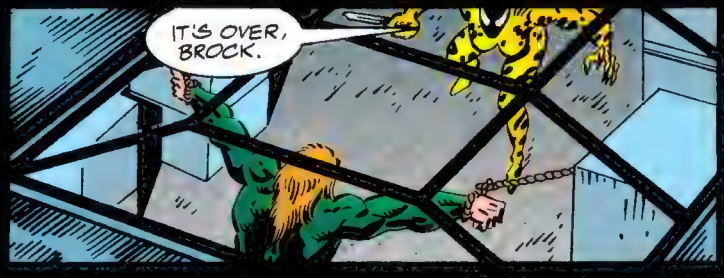

OUTSIDE...
WE'RE IN POSITION, COLONEL.
AWAITING YOUR ORDERS.
YOU SAY THERE WERE FIVE OF THEM? HOW MANY ARE IN THERE RIGHT NOW?
I DON'T KNOW. THERE *WERE* AT LEAST FIVE. I *THINK* AT LEAST ONE OF THEM IS DEAD, BUT... I JUST DON'T KNOW.
NOT TO WORRY, MR. ELLIS. FIVE OR FIFTY...
...WE'LL HANDLE THEM ALL.

WHAT'S IT GOING TO BE, BROCK?
I'LL DO WHAT I CAN.
I CAN'T LET THINGS GO ON THE WAY THEY'VE BEEN.
THIS IS A GOOD THING YOU'RE DOING, MR. BROCK.
PERHAPS WE CAN FIND SOME WAY TO HELP YOU AS WELL.
NO!
HE'S EVIL!
HE AND HIS SYM-BIOTE!
THEY'VE GOT TO DIE!

DONNA, CALM DOWN! GET CONTROL OF YOUR OTHER.
OH, I AM IN CONTROL. I'VE ALWAYS BEEN IN CONTROL.
MY OTHER HAS BEEN SPEAKING TO ME FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.
I KNOW THE NATURE OF WHAT IT IS. IT IS EVIL...
...AND WE ARE EVIL FOR BONDING WITH THEM. THAT'S WHY...
...WE ALL HAVE TO DIE!
DONNA...
...WHY?

IT HAD TO BE. WE WERE CORRUPTED BY THEM!
I HAD TO KILL LESLIE... RAMON... TREVOR... BEFORE THEIR OTHERS TOOK OVER.
THEY WANT TO SPAWN... TO MULTIPLY...
I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN.
IT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT.
DONNA, PLEASE LISTEN TO ME... LISTEN TO YOURSELF!
THE VOICES YOU'RE HEARING... ARE YOU SURE THEY'RE FROM YOUR OTHER? ARE YOU--?!
I CAN HEAR IT! I'VE ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO HEAR MINE.
EVEN BEFORE I WAS UNITED WITH IT.
THE VOICES! THE VOICES TOLD ME THEY WERE COMING. TOLD ME TO BE QUIET ABOUT THEM.
TOLD ME WHAT I HAD TO DO!
OH, DONNA... HOW IS IT THAT NONE OF US EVER KNEW? HOW COULD YOU HAVE PASSED THE PSYCH EVALUATION AT THE FOUNDATION?
PLEASE... I'M YOUR FRIEND.. LET ME HELP YOU.
CARL...
...I'M SORRY, BUT...
...I HAVE TO DO THIS.

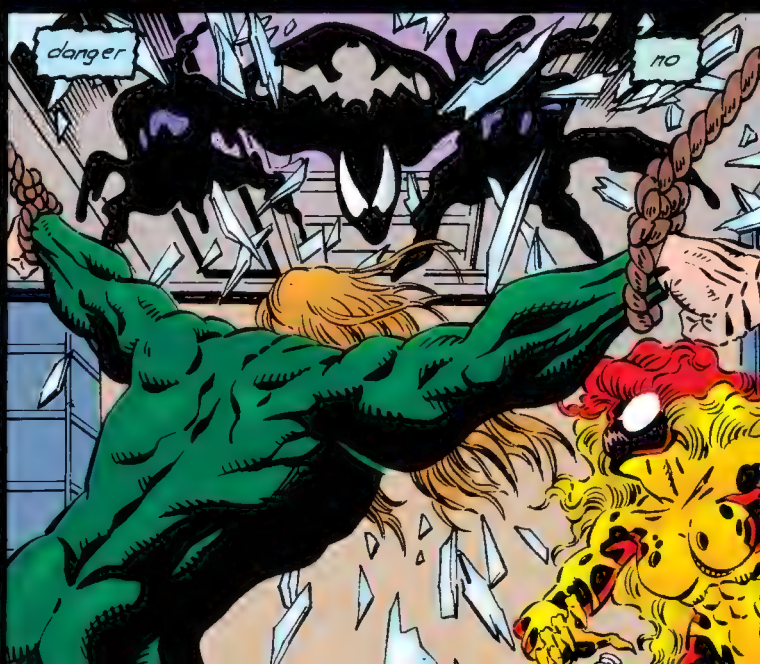

SOMETHING'S GOING DOWN IN THERE PEOPLE! LET'S MOVE IT!

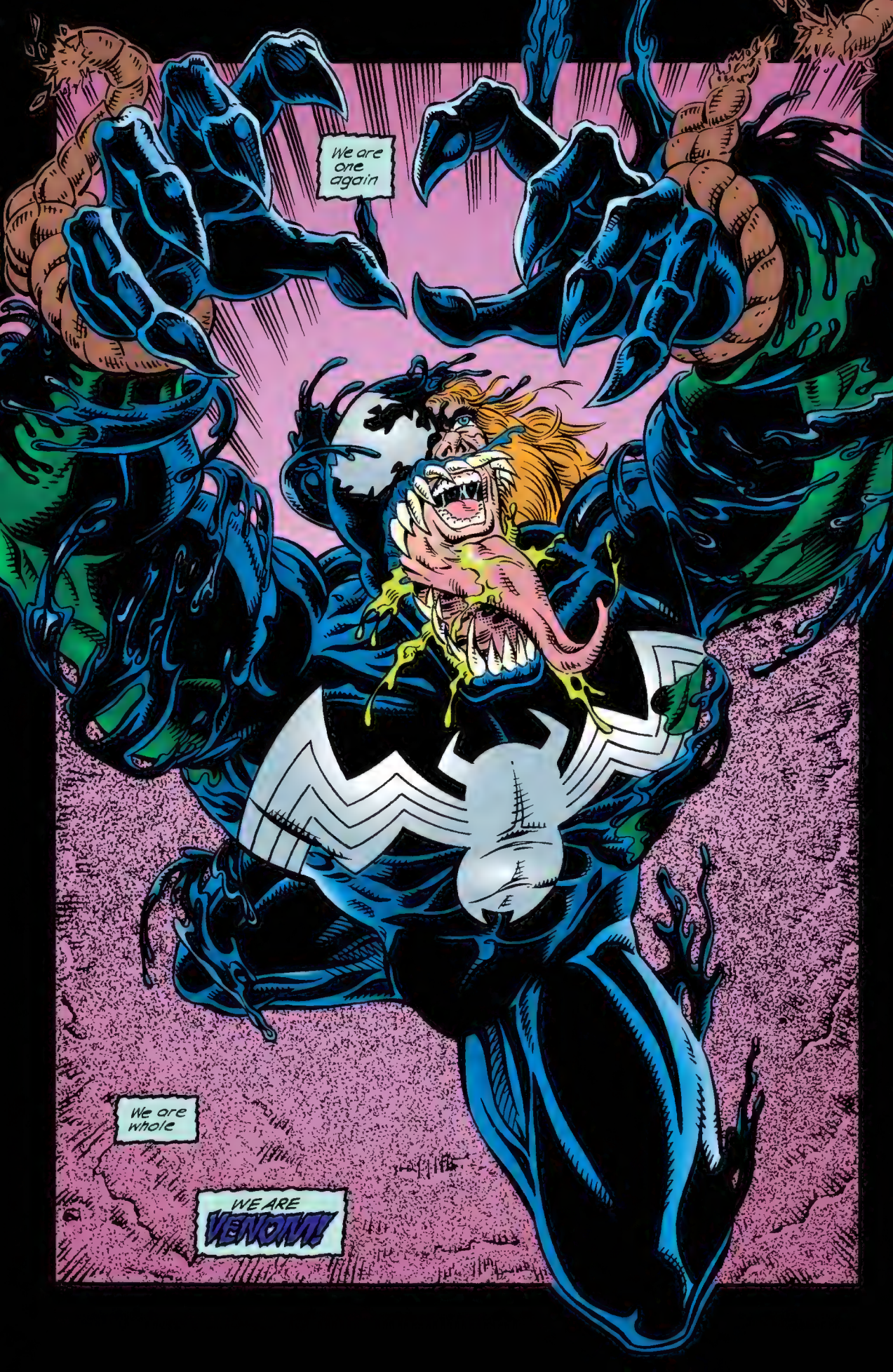

IT'S OVER, BROCK.

AFTER I KILL YOU I'LL HUNT DOWN YOUR OTHER AND THEN YOUR LAST SPAWN-- CARNAGE!

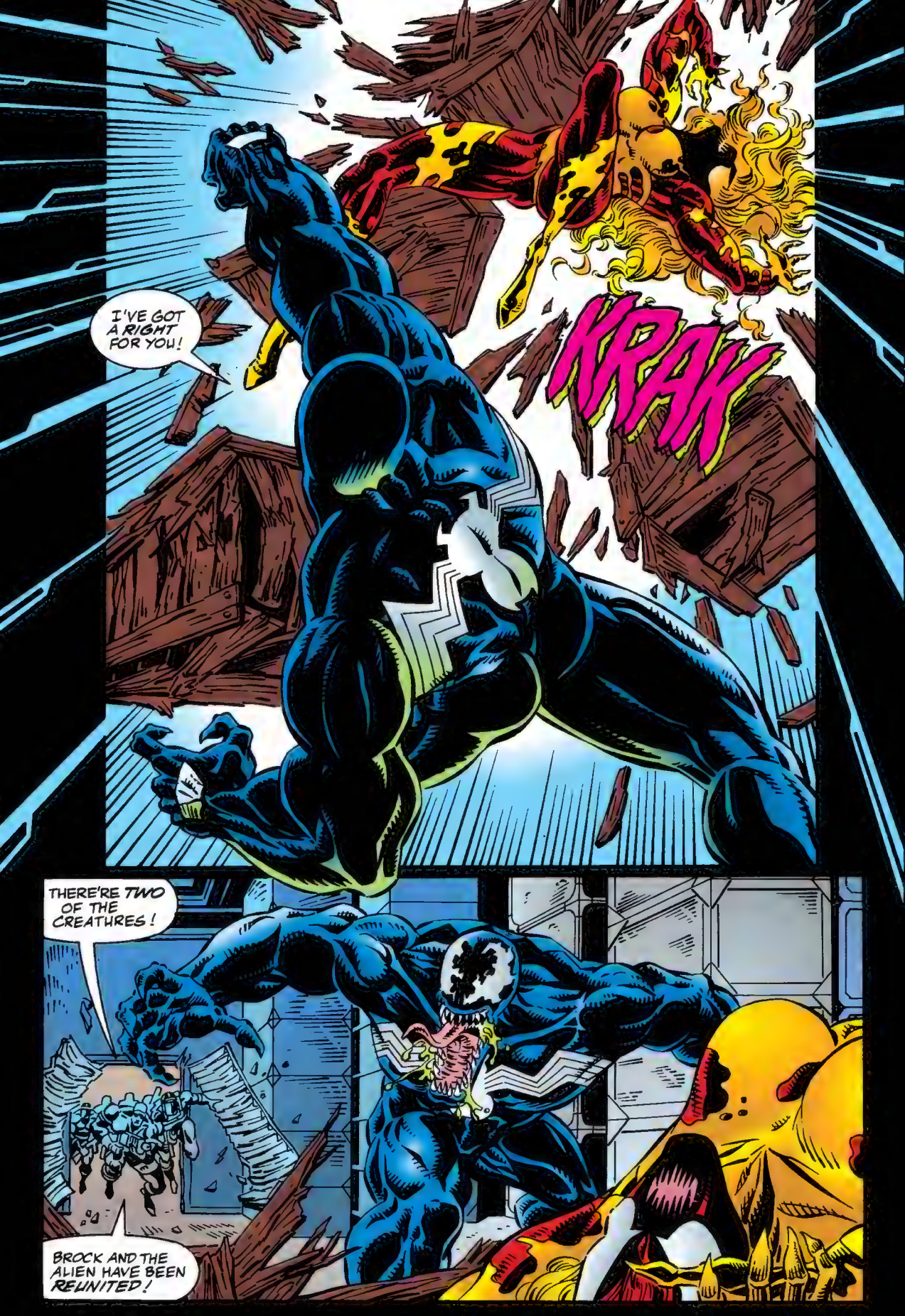
THEN IT WILL ONLY BE ME AND MY OTHER.
eddie

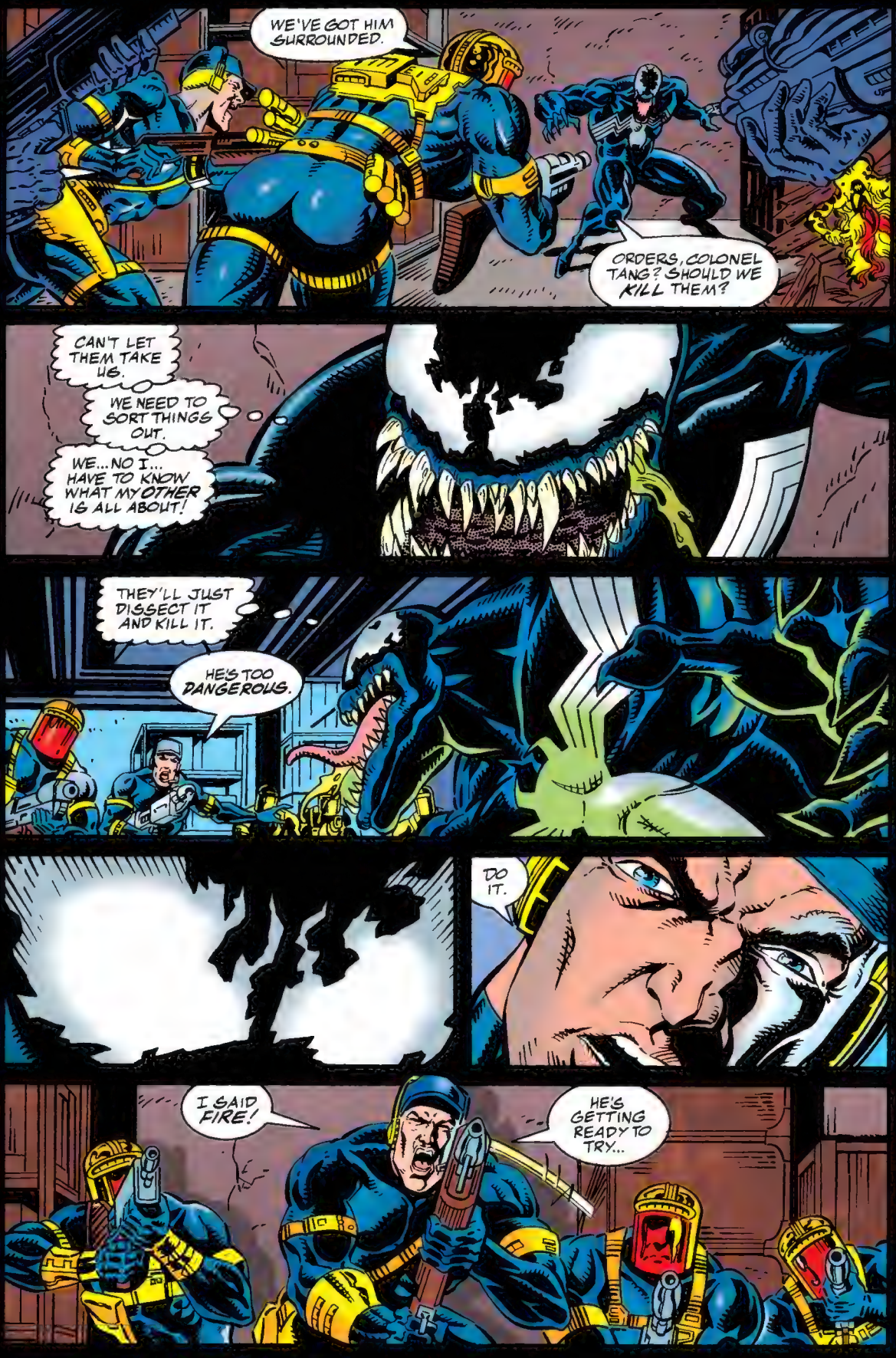
THEN I'LL FINISH IT... THE WORLD WILL BE PURGED OF THIS ABOMINATION.
knife


danger
no

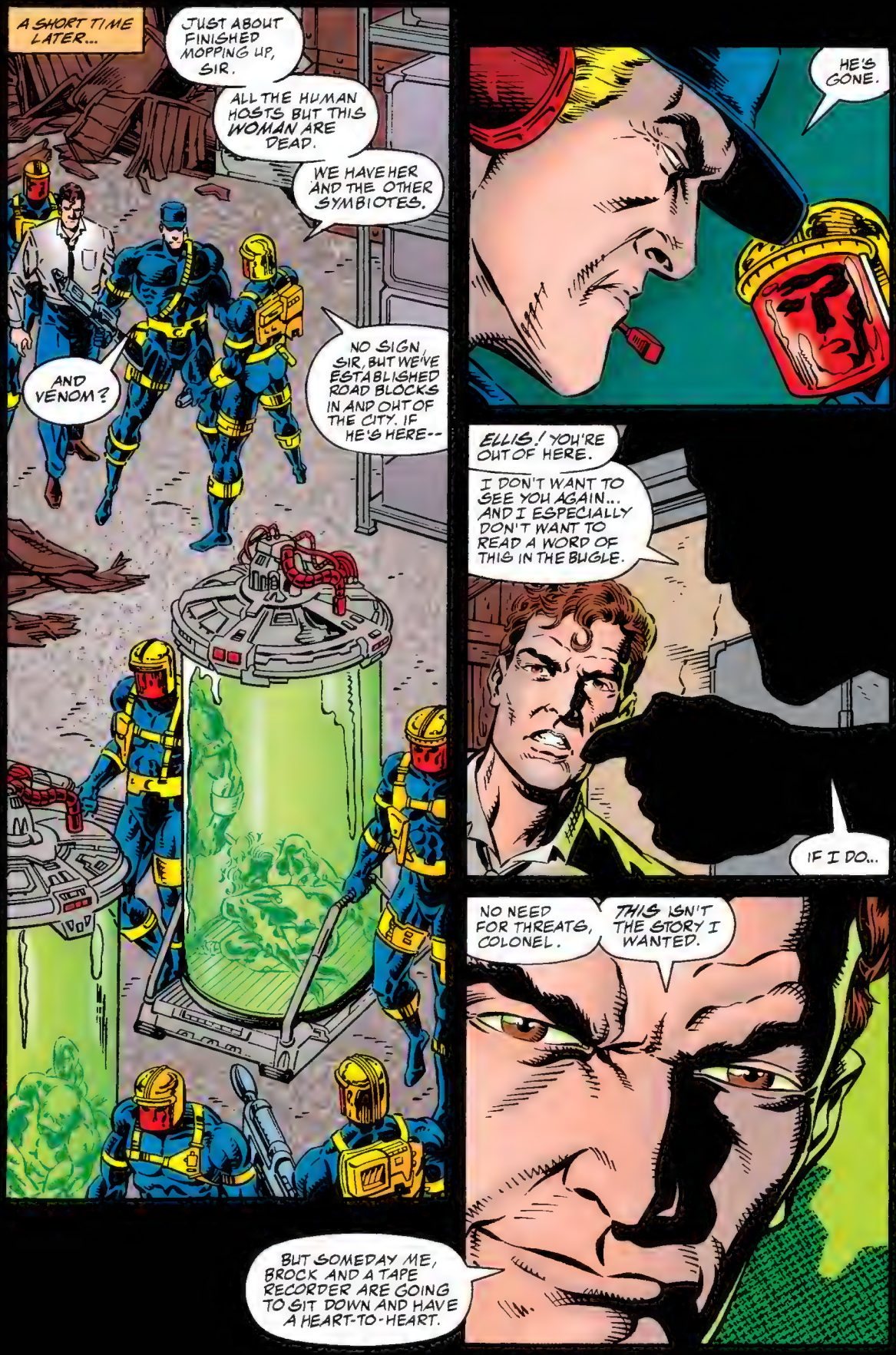

We are one again
We are whole
WE ARE VENOM!

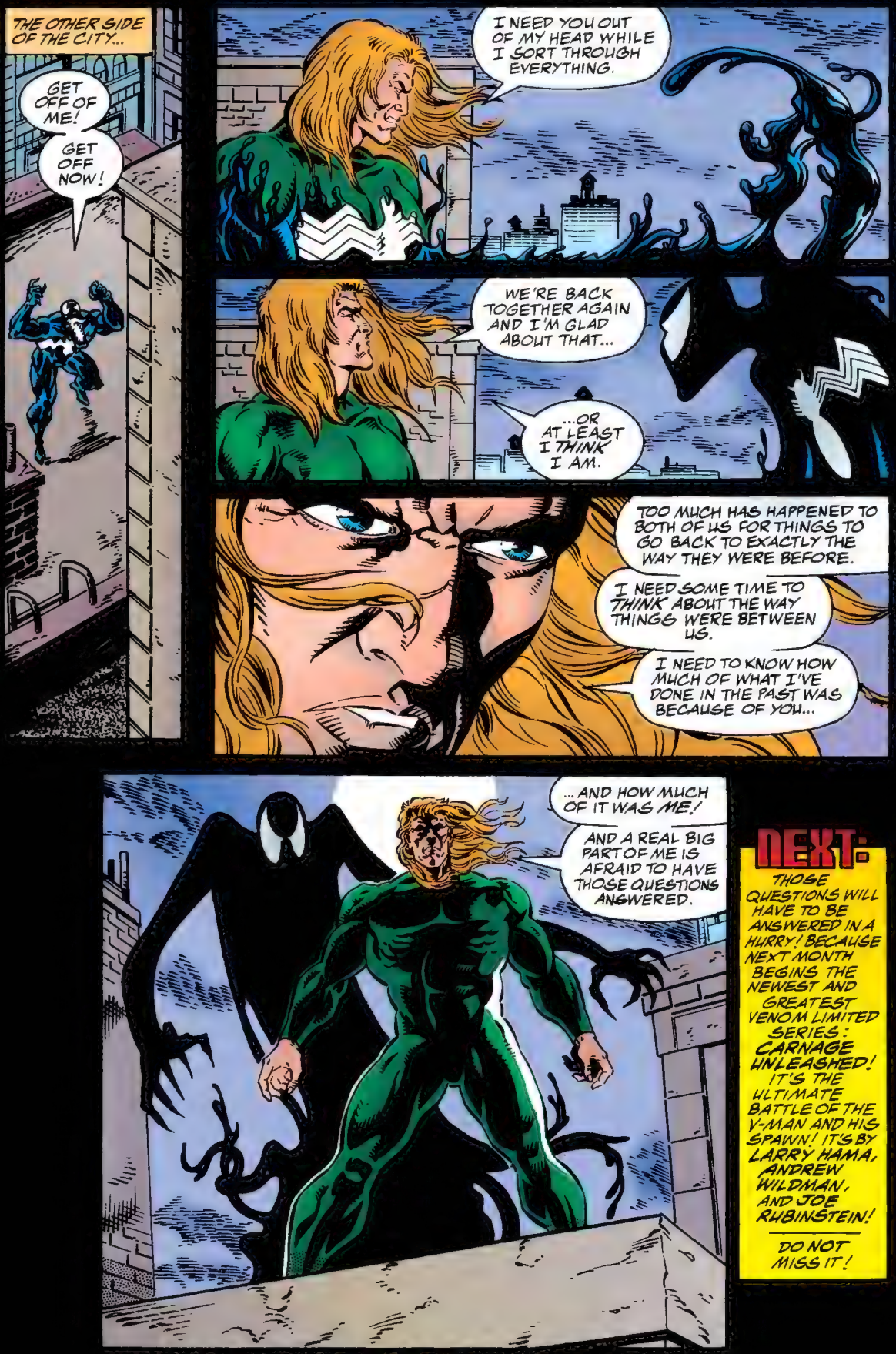
DIE MONSTER!
SORRY, LADY! WE'RE NO LONGER IN THE MOOD FOR DYING!
AND WE'RE FEELING MORE THAN A LITTLE CRANKY RIGHT NOW.
YOU MAY BE RIGHT ABOUT THE OTHERS NEEDING TO DIE, BUT...
...GUESS WHO I THINK WE NEED TO START WITH?
I HAVE RIGHT ON MY SIDE, VENOM!

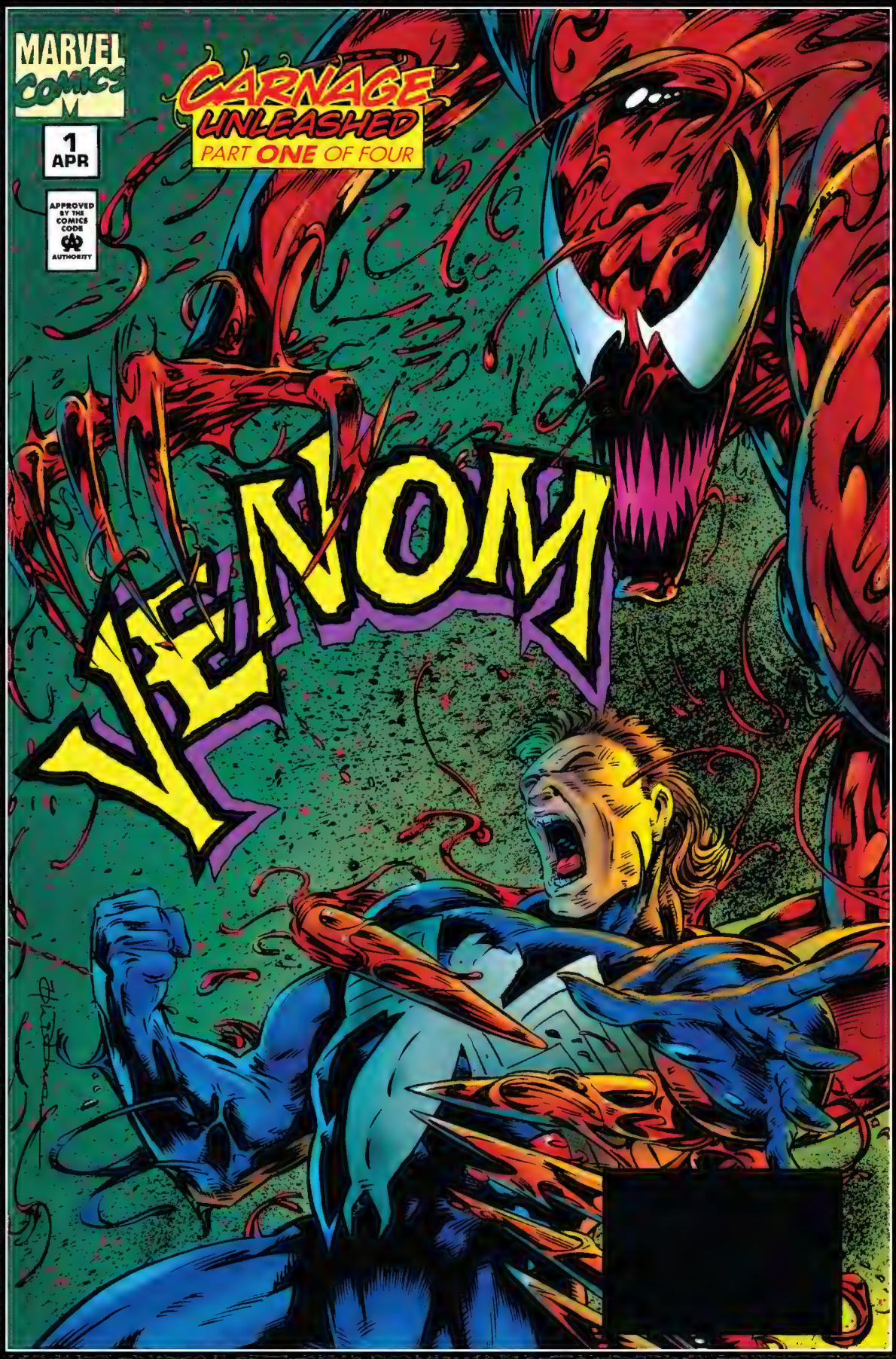

I'VE GOT A RIGHT FOR YOU!
KRAK
THERE'RE TWO OF THE CREATURES!
BROCK AND THE ALIEN HAVE BEEN REUNITED!


WE'VE GOT HIM SURROUNDED.
ORDERS, COLONEL TANG? SHOULD WE KILL THEM?
CAN'T LET THEM TAKE US.
WE NEED TO SORT THINGS OUT.
WE... NO I... HAVE TO KNOW WHAT MY OTHER IS ALL ABOUT!
THEY'LL JUST DISSECT IT AND KILL IT.
HE'S TOO DANGEROUS.
DO IT.
I SAID FIRE!
HE'S GETTING READY TO TRY...

...SOMETHING!
WHERE'D HE GO?
HE'S IN CAMOUFLAGE MODE.
FIRE AT WILL. RANDOM BURSTS!
JUST HIT SOMETHING!
WHAT THE--
UGPH!
WE DIDN'T KILL HIM!
MAYBE WE'RE NOT ALL BAD.
MAYBE.


A SHORT TIME LATER...
JUST ABOUT FINISHED MOPPING UP, SIR.
ALL THE HUMAN HOSTS BUT THIS WOMAN ARE DEAD.
WE HAVE HER AND THE OTHER SYMBIOTES.
AND VENOM?
NO SIGN, SIR, BUT WE'VE ESTABLISHED ROAD BLOCKS IN AND OUT OF THE CITY. IF HE'S HERE--
HE'S GONE.
ELLIS! YOU'RE OUT OF HERE.
I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN... AND I ESPECIALLY DON'T WANT TO READ A WORD OF THIS IN THE BUGLE.
IF I DO...
NO NEED FOR THREATS, COLONEL.
THIS ISN'T THE STORY I WANTED.
BUT SOMEDAY ME, BROCK AND A TAPE RECORDER ARE GOING TO SIT DOWN AND HAVE A HEART-TO-HEART.


THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CITY...
GET OFF OF ME!
GET OFF NOW!
I NEED YOU OUT OF MY HEAD WHILE I SORT THROUGH EVERYTHING.
WE'RE BACK TOGETHER AGAIN AND I'M GLAD ABOUT THAT...
...OR AT LEAST I THINK I AM.
TOO MUCH HAS HAPPENED TO BOTH OF US FOR THINGS TO GO BACK TO EXACTLY THE WAY THEY WERE BEFORE.
I NEED SOME TIME TO THINK ABOUT THE WAY THINGS WERE BETWEEN US.
I NEED TO KNOW HOW MUCH OF WHAT I'VE DONE IN THE PAST WAS BECAUSE OF YOU...
...AND HOW MUCH OF IT WAS ME!
AND A REAL BIG PART OF ME IS AFRAID TO HAVE THOSE QUESTIONS ANSWERED.
NEXT:
THOSE QUESTIONS WILL HAVE TO BE ANSWERED IN A HURRY! BECAUSE NEXT MONTH BEGINS THE NEWEST AND GREATEST VENOM LIMITED SERIES: CARNAGE UNLEASHED! IT'S THE ULTIMATE BATTLE OF THE V-MAN AND HIS SPAWN! IT'S BY LARRY HAMA, ANDREW WILDMAN, AND JOE RUBINSTEIN!
DO NOT MISS IT!


MARVEL
Comics
1
APR
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
CARNAGE
UNLEASHED
PART ONE OF FOUR
VENOM

CARNAGE UNLEASHED!
WHAT THE--?
MY NAME IS EDDIE BROCK AND I HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH AN ALIEN.
WELL, IT'S MORE THAN JUST THAT...
...IT'S WHAT YOU MIGHT CALL SYMBIOSIS.

TOGETHER, WE BECOME VENOM.

MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD OF US. WE USED TO GET A LOT OF UNDESERVED BAD PRESS...

...UNLIKE CARNAGE.

HE DESERVES EVERY SINGLE COLUMN INCH OF VITUPERATION AND MALEDICTION A CITY-DESK EDITOR CAN SLING AT HIM.

A VIDEO GAME???

A TRADEMARK???

KASADY, WE'LL RIP YOUR HEART OUT BEFORE WE SEE YOU CASH IN ON YOUR INFAMY!

CARNAGE UNLEASH

SCHRRRIPP

AL

RED

ERNES AND

SEVA GENESIS!

STAN LEE PRESENTS:

PART ONE:

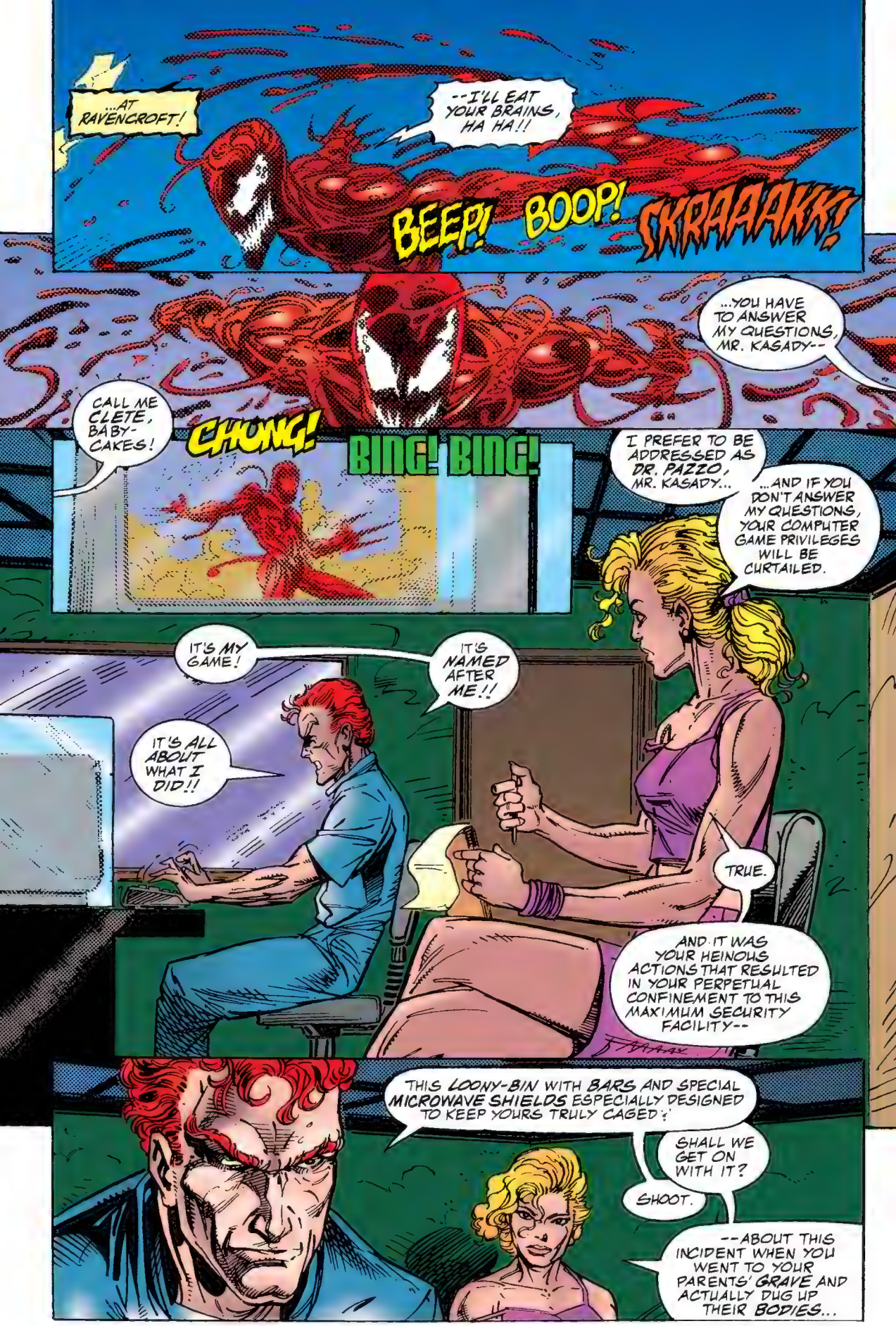
THERE MUST BE SOME WAY OUT OF HERE...

BRAVE

SCRIPT LARRY HAMA
PENCIL BREAKDOWNS ANDREW WILDMAN
PENCIL FINISHES ART NICHOLS
INK FINISHES JOE RUBINSTEIN
COLORING TOM SMITH
LETTERING KEN LOPEZ
EDITOR ERIC FEIN
GROUP EDITOR DANNY FINGEROTH
EDITOR IN CHIEF BOB BUDIANSKY

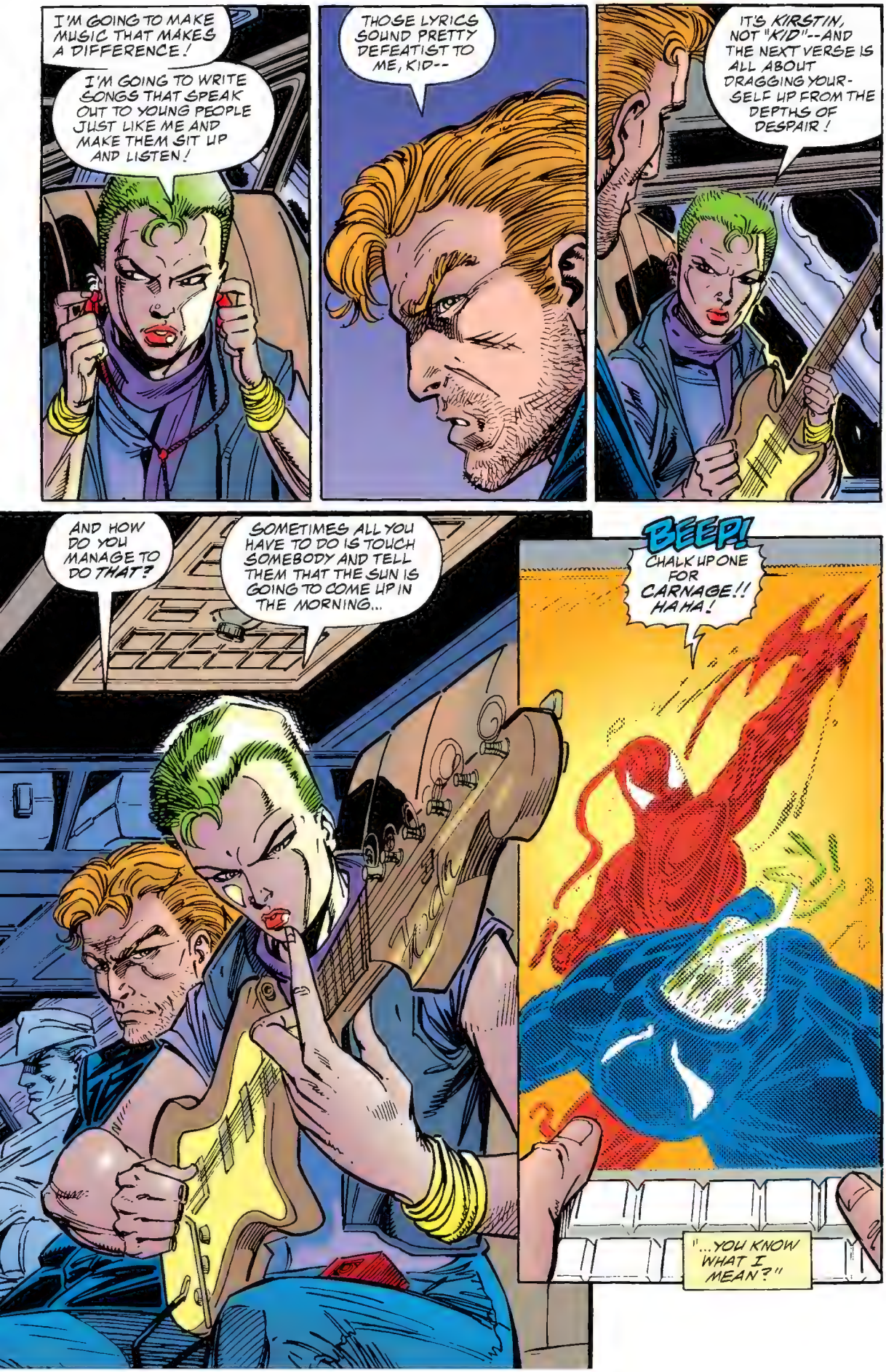
--NOW, WHERE WERE WE???
OH, THAT'S RIGHT. YOU WERE TELLING US SOMETHING TO THE EFFECT OF "HAND OVER THE WALLET 'POPS' BEFORE WE GET NASTY!!!"
SO YOU GOT UGLY AND TORE UP A POSTER. BIG DEAL. WE STILL GOTTA GET PAID!
POP SOME NINES IN HIS FACE, MIKEY! SMOKE HIS SHOES!
OOOOH, YOU MUST BE TWO EXAMPLES OF THAT SOCIOPATHIC YOUTH THAT I'VE BEEN READING ABOUT...
...LED DOWN THE GARDEN PATH TO LIVES OF CRIMINAL OVER-INDULGENCE BY VIOLENT T.V. SHOWS, COMIC BOOKS AND VIDEO GAMES--!
BLAM BLAM BLAM
EEEEHA!
WE DON'T BELIEVE FOR A SECOND THAT T.V., COMICS AND GAMES TWISTED YOUR LITTLE SICK-PUPPY BRAINS--
--I MEAN, WE WATCHED AND READ ALL THAT SAME STUFF--
UNGH!
POP
POP
POP

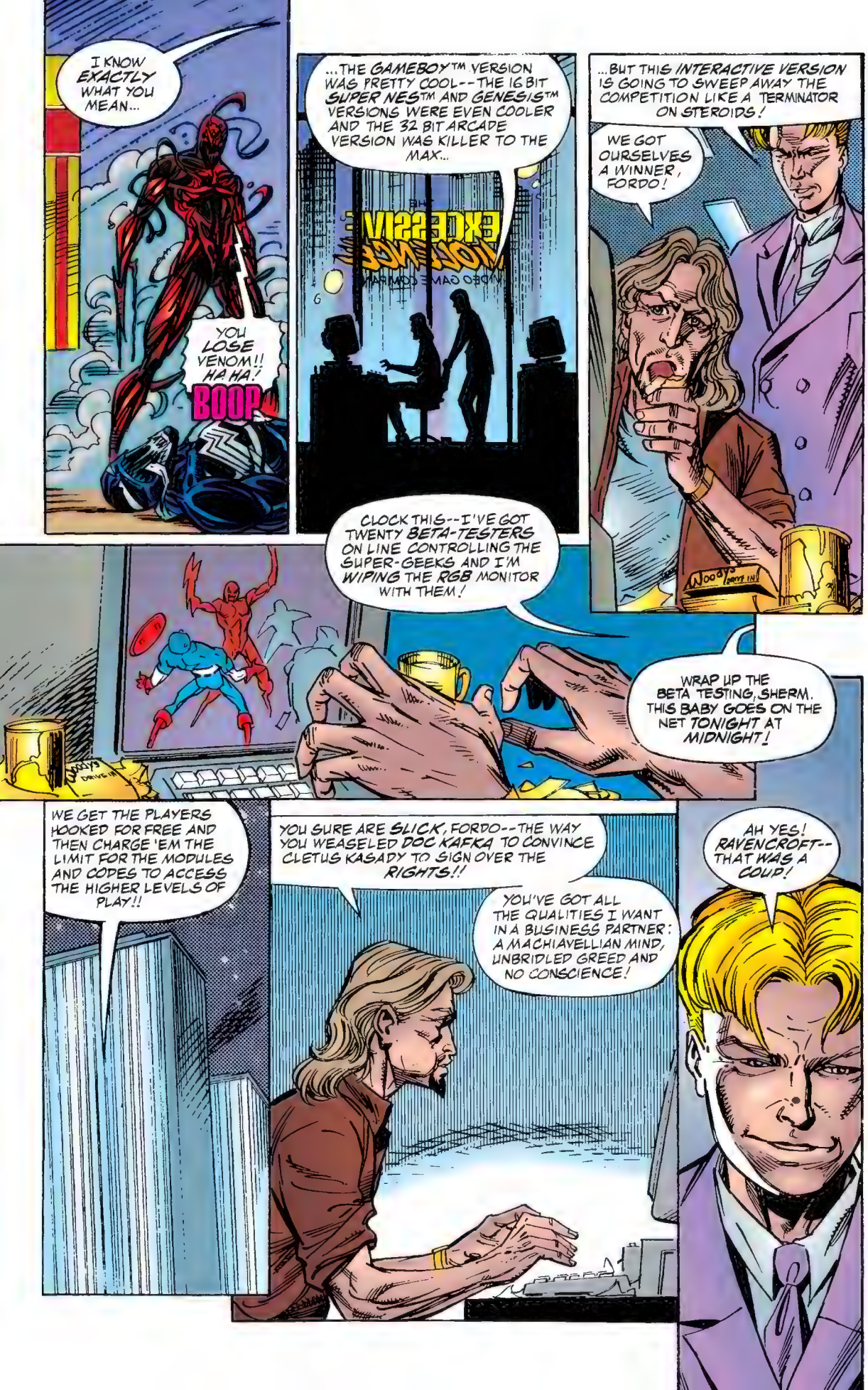
--AND LOOK HOW NICE WE TURNED OUT!
SCHRIPP
CRUNCH
SNAP
SPLOOT
HOO-HA!
HOW MANY INNOCENT LIVES HAVE WE SAVED BY RIDDING THE STREETS OF THOSE TWO PREDATORS?
AH, TO DO GOOD IN THE WORLD IS TO MAKE THE SOUL SING!
WILLYA LOOKIT THAT?!
GOOD LORD! ;CHOKE!;
TIME TO TRADE IN THE WINDY CITY FOR THE BIG APPLE...
BUS TERMINAL
... TIME TO PAY A COURTESY CALL ON MR. CLETUS KASADY, A.K.A. CARNAGE...

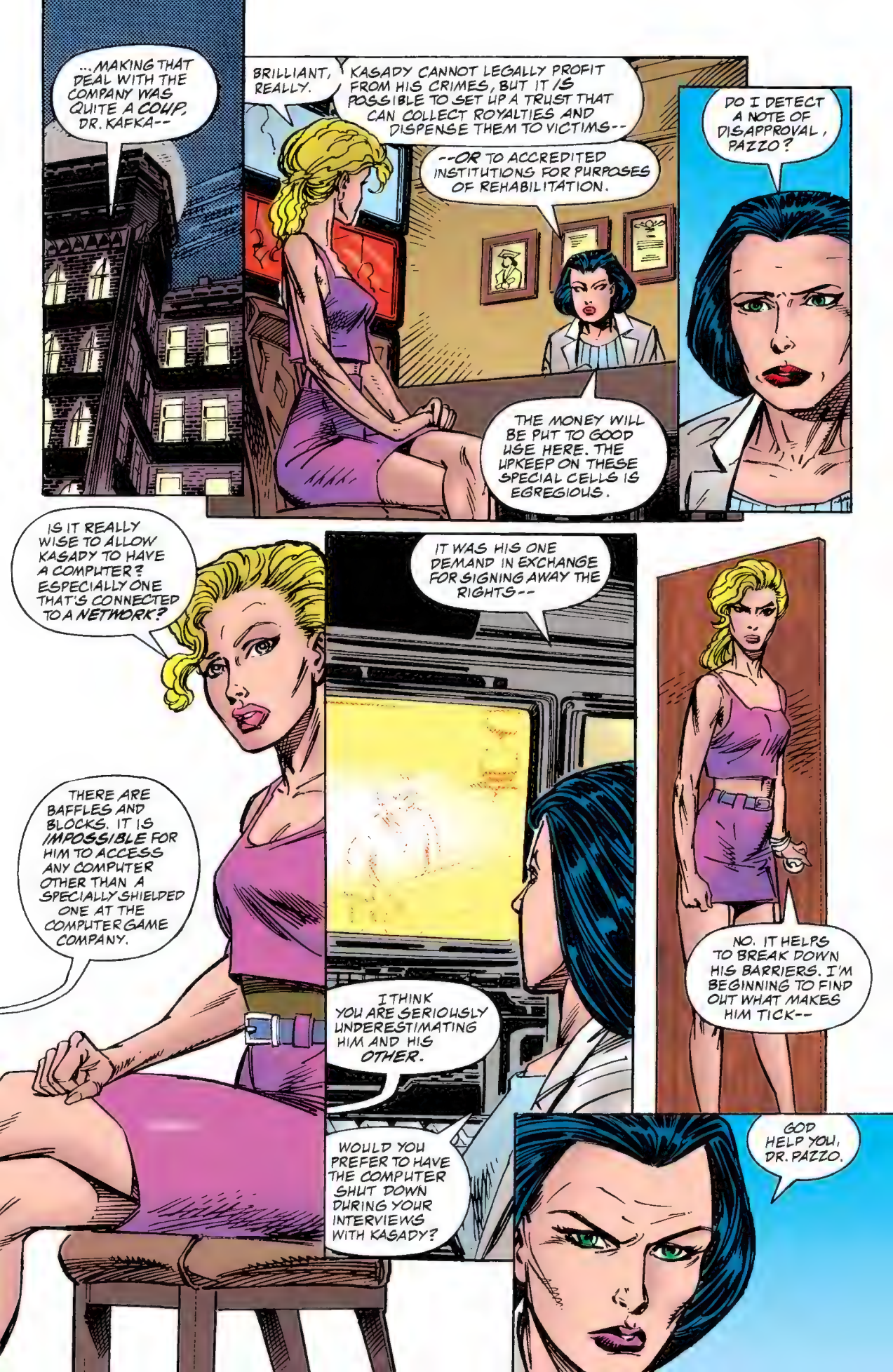

...AT RAVENCROFT!
--I'LL EAT YOUR BRAINS, HA HA!!
BEEP! BOOP! SKRAAAKK!
...YOU HAVE TO ANSWER MY QUESTIONS, MR. KASADY--
CALL ME CLETE, BABY-CAKES!
CHONG!
BING! BING!
I PREFER TO BE ADDRESSED AS DR. PAZZO, MR. KASADY...
...AND IF YOU DON'T ANSWER MY QUESTIONS, YOUR COMPUTER GAME PRIVILEGES WILL BE CURTAILED.
IT'S MY GAME!
IT'S NAMED AFTER ME!!
IT'S ALL ABOUT WHAT I DID!!
TRUE.
AND IT WAS YOUR HEINOUS ACTIONS THAT RESULTED IN YOUR PERPETUAL CONFINEMENT TO THIS MAXIMUM SECURITY FACILITY--
THIS LOONY-BIN WITH BARS AND SPECIAL MICROWAVE SHIELDS ESPECIALLY DESIGNED TO KEEP YOURS TRULY CAGED!
SHALL WE GET ON WITH IT?
SHOOT.
--ABOUT THIS INCIDENT WHEN YOU WENT TO YOUR PARENTS' GRAVE AND ACTUALLY DUG UP THEIR BODIES...

SHE LIED TO MY DAD, YOU KNOW--
WAS THIS YOUR MOTHER?
YEAH.
SHE MADE UP THINGS ABOUT ME, TRIED TO GET ME IN TROUBLE, ALL BECAUSE SHE LOVED THAT STUPID DOG OF HERS MORE THAN ME!
HER DOG? YOU NEVER MENTIONED A DOG BEFORE--
IT DIED.
IT DID SOMETHING NASTY IN THE BASEMENT, YOU SEE...
CLETUS! HAVE YOU SEEN FIFI? WHAT WAS ALL THAT YOWLING ABOUT?? WHERE--
OH, NOOOOO!
THAT STUPID DOG SURE MADE A MESS IN THE BASEMENT...
...AND OF COURSE, IT WAS ME WHO GOT BLAMED!

THE SELECTION OF SEAT-MATES ON A BUS ALWAYS SEEMS TO BE A HOBSON'S CHOICE...
♪ EMPTINESS AND DESOLATION, LONELINESS AND ISOLATION; THAT'S THE STUFF OF MY LIFE AND IT SUCKS! ♪
BEEP BOOP
I'LL EAT YOUR BRAIN! HAHAHAHA!
SNORING NUNS, DRUNKEN SAILORS, BRATTY KIDS AND POETS OF THE WIDE AND OPEN ROAD.
MUSCLES
♪ APATHY AND RESIGNATION, AGONY AND DESECRATION, MIGHT AS WELL GET RUN DOWN BY A TRUCK! ♪
I THINK I MADE A BIG MISTAKE IN NOT OPTING FOR THE SNORING NUN.
♪ THERE IS NO ESCAPE FROM ENNUI, JUST ENDLESS HOURS OF BOREDOM, THEN WE-- ♪
THAT'S THE LIMIT!
YOU CAN'T RHYME ENNUI WITH THEN WE!
OF COURSE I CAN--
--I CAN DO ANYTHING I WANT!


I'M GOING TO MAKE MUSIC THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!
I'M GOING TO WRITE SONGS THAT SPEAK OUT TO YOUNG PEOPLE JUST LIKE ME AND MAKE THEM SIT UP AND LISTEN!
THOSE LYRICS SOUND PRETTY DEFEATIST TO ME, KID--
IT'S KIRSTIN, NOT "KID"--AND THE NEXT VERSE IS ALL ABOUT DRAGGING YOURSELF UP FROM THE DEPTHS OF DESPAIR!
AND HOW DO YOU MANAGE TO DO THAT?
SOMETIMES ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS TOUCH SOMEBODY AND TELL THEM THAT THE SUN IS GOING TO COME UP IN THE MORNING...
BEEP!
CHALK UP ONE FOR CARNAGE!! HAHA!
"...YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN?"


I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU MEAN...
YOU LOSE VENOM!! HA HA!
BOOP
...THE GAMEBOY™ VERSION WAS PRETTY COOL--THE 16 BIT SUPER NES™ AND GENESIS™ VERSIONS WERE EVEN COOLER AND THE 32 BIT ARCADE VERSION WAS KILLER TO THE MAX...
...BUT THIS INTERACTIVE VERSION IS GOING TO SWEEP AWAY THE COMPETITION LIKE A TERMINATOR ON STEROIDS!
WE GOT OURSELVES A WINNER, FORDO!
CLOCK THIS--I'VE GOT TWENTY BETA-TESTERS ON LINE CONTROLLING THE SUPER-GEEKS AND I'M WIPING THE RGB MONITOR WITH THEM!
WRAP UP THE BETA TESTING, SHERM. THIS BABY GOES ON THE NET TONIGHT AT MIDNIGHT!
WE GET THE PLAYERS HOOKED FOR FREE AND THEN CHARGE 'EM THE LIMIT FOR THE MODULES AND CODES TO ACCESS THE HIGHER LEVELS OF PLAY!!
YOU SURE ARE SLICK, FORDO--THE WAY YOU WEASELED DOC KAFKA TO CONVINCE CLETUS KASADY TO SIGN OVER THE RIGHTS!!
YOU'VE GOT ALL THE QUALITIES I WANT IN A BUSINESS PARTNER: A MACHIAVELLIAN MIND, UNBRIDLED GREED AND NO CONSCIENCE!
AH YES! RAVENCROFT--THAT WAS A COUP!

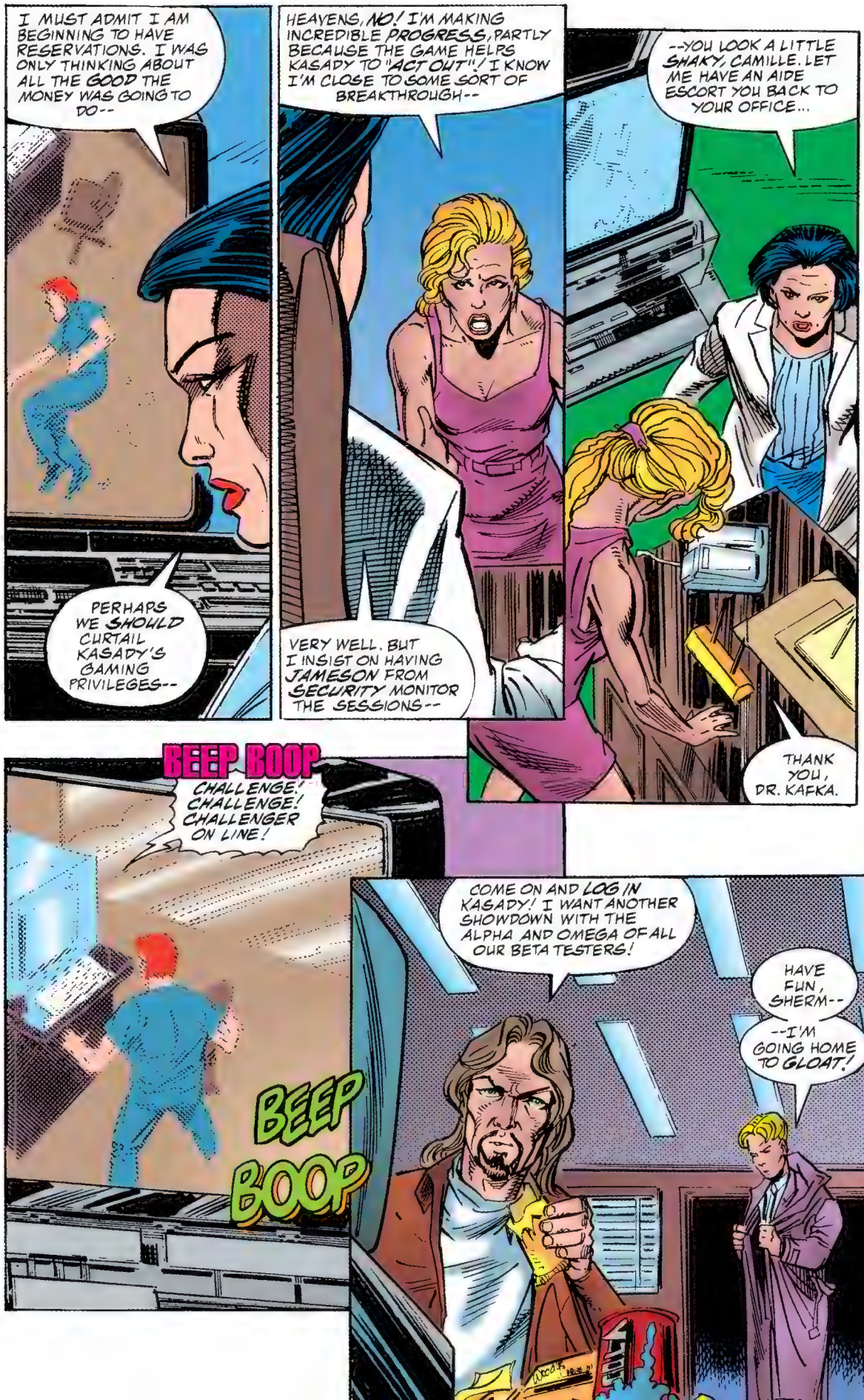

...MAKING THAT DEAL WITH THE COMPANY WAS QUITE A COUP, DR. KAFKA--
BRILLIANT, REALLY.
KASADY CANNOT LEGALLY PROFIT FROM HIS CRIMES, BUT IT IS POSSIBLE TO SET UP A TRUST THAT CAN COLLECT ROYALTIES AND DISPENSE THEM TO VICTIMS--
--OR TO ACCREDITED INSTITUTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF REHABILITATION.
THE MONEY WILL BE PUT TO GOOD USE HERE. THE UPKEEP ON THESE SPECIAL CELLS IS EGREGIOUS.
DO I DETECT A NOTE OF DISAPPROVAL, PAZZO?
IS IT REALLY WISE TO ALLOW KASADY TO HAVE A COMPUTER? ESPECIALLY ONE THAT'S CONNECTED TO A NETWORK?
THERE ARE BAFFLES AND BLOCKS. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO ACCESS ANY COMPUTER OTHER THAN A SPECIALLY SHIELDED ONE AT THE COMPUTER GAME COMPANY.
IT WAS HIS ONE DEMAND IN EXCHANGE FOR SIGNING AWAY THE RIGHTS--
I THINK YOU ARE SERIOUSLY UNDERESTIMATING HIM AND HIS OTHER.
WOULD YOU PREFER TO HAVE THE COMPUTER SHUT DOWN DURING YOUR INTERVIEWS WITH KASADY?
NO. IT HELPS TO BREAK DOWN HIS BARRIERS. I'M BEGINNING TO FIND OUT WHAT MAKES HIM TICK--
GOD HELP YOU, DR. PAZZO.

♫ THE SUN'S COMING UP LIKE A BIG BALL OF YELLOW, IT'S WARMING MY ELBOWS, IMPROVING MY MELLOW--♫
IT'S TOO EARLY TO BE SO HAPPY, KIRSTIN.
THE REST OF HUMANITY REALLY HAS IT IN FOR DIEHARD POLLYANNAS LIKE YOU, YOU KNOW THAT?
LIFE IS TOO SHORT TO BE SAD, MR. BLOCK!
LIFE IS TOO SHORT TO WASTE ANY OF IT BEING ANGRY OR FEELING MEAN! LIFE IS TOO SHORT NOT TO BE HONEST WITH THE WORLD--FREDDY? WAS THAT YOUR FIRST NAME?
UH, YEAH. RIGHT. FREDDY. FREDDY BLOCK.
THERE USED TO BE A LOT OF MEANNESS IN MY LIFE UNTIL I DISCOVERED POETRY AND THAT'S HOW I MET CLIVE...
I STARTED CORRESPONDING WITH HIM THROUGH A POETRY JOURNAL. ISN'T HE CUTE? HE IS MY TRUE SOUL MATE. I'M ON MY WAY TO MEET HIM FOR THE FIRST TIME. HE LIVES IN THE EAST VILLAGE AND HE JUST GOT PUBLISHED IN "SENSITIVE SKIN"!
THE SKEEVY LITTLE SLIME-BUCKET DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER TO COVER UP HIS SCABBED-OVER TRACK MARKS.
HOW DO I TELL LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE HERE THAT HER SOUL MATE IS A STONE JUNKIE?

HOW DID YOUR MOTHER REACT TO YOUR KILL--UH, THE ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF HER DOG?
SHE LOST IT, DOC. WENT BALLISTIC...
BASH! BOOP! BOP! BOP!
BRUISE MY KNUCKLES WITH YOUR FACE, WEB-SLINGER! HAHA!
BOOSH!
...SHE REALLY WAS MISSING A FEW CHAIRS FROM HER DINETTE SET, YOU KNOW...
CLEEEETUS!!! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE????
"SHE WAS ALWAYS TRYING TO ATTACH THE BLAME FOR THE THINGS THAT WENT WRONG IN HER LIFE TO SOMEBODY ELSE!
"SHE HAD TOO MANY DEVILS RUNNING AROUND INSIDE HER BRAIN...
THWOP
OWWWW!
"...AND SHE NEEDED SOME WAY TO LET THEM OUT!
NRRRRRR
NOOOOO!

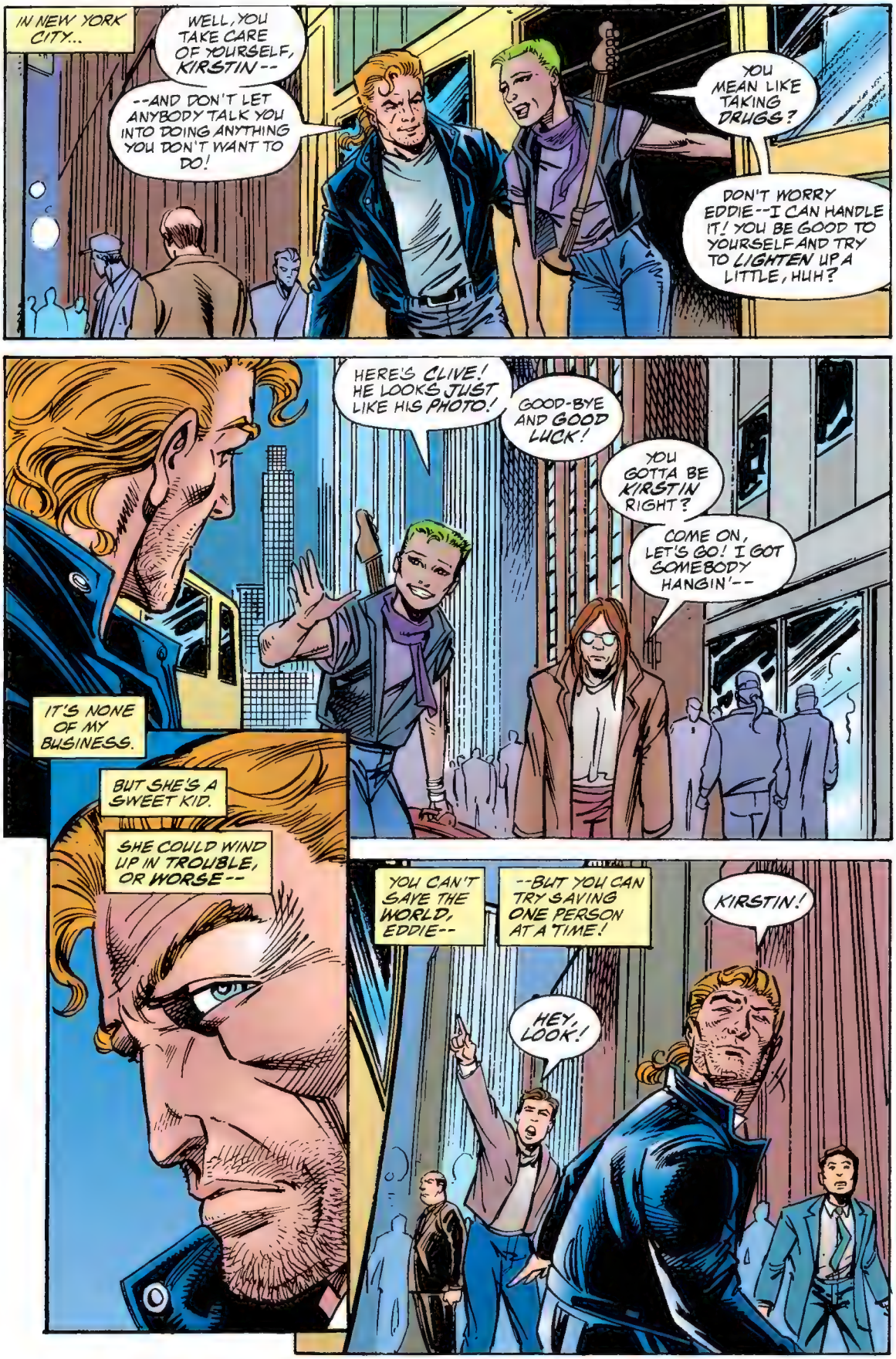
"I THINK SHE WAS STILL UPSET WITH ME ABOUT THE TIME I DROPPED THE TV INTO THE TUB WHILE SHE WAS TAKING A BATH.
"WHAT WAS THE BIG DEAL...?
YOU LITTLE MONSTER!!
"...SHE MANAGED TO PULL THE PLUG OUT IN TIME!
WHAT THE--
"LUCKY FOR ME, DAD CAME HOME WHEN HE DID...
"...HE SURE WAS SURPRISED WHEN I TOLD THE COPS THAT HE KILLED MOM FOR NO REASON AT ALL--"
--YOU SHOULD HAVE HEARD HIM SCREAMING AT ME ALL DURING THE TRIAL!
HOW DID YOU FEEL ABOUT THAT?
FEEL?
I FELT PUMPED!!!
I FELT LIKE A THOUSAND TONS OF TNT!
I FELT LIKE A RED HOT POKER IN THE FURNACE OF HATE!!!

KAFKA! HIT THE MICROWAVE SHIELDS!
SSSRREEEE
EEEEYOWW!!
TURN OFF THE HOLOGRAPHIC PROJECTOR, DR. KAFKA...!
...THAT WAS QUITE DISTURBING.
PROJECTING YOURSELF IN A VIRTUAL FIELD INTO HIS CELL HAS ITS DRAWBACKS, CAMILLE...
...IT'S VERY EASY TO FORGET THAT YOU'RE NOT REALLY IN THERE WITH HIM!
CLICK


I MUST ADMIT I AM BEGINNING TO HAVE RESERVATIONS. I WAS ONLY THINKING ABOUT ALL THE GOOD THE MONEY WAS GOING TO DO--
PERHAPS WE SHOULD CURTAIL KASADY'S GAMING PRIVILEGES--
HEAVENS, NO! I'M MAKING INCREDIBLE PROGRESS, PARTLY BECAUSE THE GAME HELPS KASADY TO "ACT OUT"! I KNOW I'M CLOSE TO SOME SORT OF BREAKTHROUGH--
VERY WELL. BUT I INSIST ON HAVING JAMESON FROM SECURITY MONITOR THE SESSIONS--
--YOU LOOK A LITTLE SHAKY, CAMILLE. LET ME HAVE AN AIDE ESCORT YOU BACK TO YOUR OFFICE...
THANK YOU, DR. KAFKA.
BEEP BOOP
CHALLENGE! CHALLENGE! CHALLENGER ON LINE!
BEEP BOOP
COME ON AND LOG IN KASADY! I WANT ANOTHER SHOWDOWN WITH THE ALPHA AND OMEGA OF ALL OUR BETA TESTERS!
HAVE FUN, SHERM--
--I'M GOING HOME TO GLOAT!

HA! SHERMY WANTS TO PLAY, HUH?
I BET YOU FEEL ALL NICE AND SAFE BEHIND YOUR SHIELDED AND BLOCKED CPU, DON'TCHA?
BUT YOU SET UP THE CODES AND RESTRICTIONS TO KEEP OUT AN ORDINARY HACKER--
ALL RIIIIIGHT! NOW, WE'RE DOWN TO PARTY!
CARNAGE LOGGED IN; READY TO PLAY
--NOT AN ENTITY THAT CAN EXTRUDE ITSELF AS A MOLECULAR FILAMENT AND TRAVEL ALONG COMMUNICATION CABLES--
--I JUST CHANGED THE RULES, SHERM THE GERM--!
GUH! GUH!

CARNAGE SAYS; GO OVER TO THE UNSHIELDED CPU AND HACK YOUR WAY INTO THE RAVENCROFT SECURITY SYSTEM!!
NO WAY! I CAN'T DO THAT!!
DO IT, SHERM!
I CAN ARRANGE TO HAVE SOME UGLY STUFF HAPPEN TO YOUR NERVE ENDINGS!!!
ARRRRRGH!
DO IT, SHERMY!!
HACK YOUR WAY IN AND OPEN MY CELL DOOR!!!
I'M TRYING! I'M TRYING!


IN NEW YORK CITY...
WELL, YOU TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, KIRSTIN--
--AND DON'T LET ANYBODY TALK YOU INTO DOING ANYTHING YOU DON'T WANT TO DO!
YOU MEAN LIKE TAKING DRUGS?
DON'T WORRY EDDIE--I CAN HANDLE IT! YOU BE GOOD TO YOURSELF AND TRY TO LIGHTEN UP A LITTLE, HUH?
HERE'S CLIVE! HE LOOKS JUST LIKE HIS PHOTO!
GOOD-BYE AND GOOD LUCK!
YOU GOTTA BE KIRSTIN RIGHT?
COME ON, LET'S GO! I GOT SOMEBODY HANGIN'--
IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS.
BUT SHE'S A SWEET KID.
SHE COULD WIND UP IN TROUBLE, OR WORSE--
YOU CAN'T SAVE THE WORLD, EDDIE--
--BUT YOU CAN TRY SAVING ONE PERSON AT A TIME!
KIRSTIN!
HEY, LOOK!

AIIEEEEEE!
KEE-RASH
HOLY--
--SMOKE!!
PA-THOC
YUP!
THOSE TENDRILS--
--CARNAGE!!
WOW! WE'RE TAKING A CAB?
CAN'T KEEP THE MAN WAITING, BABE--
--GOT'TA MAKE THE CONNECTION, KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
WHERE TO, BUD?
ST. MARKS PLACE. THE THIRD EYE CAFE--
WAIT--!
I'VE GOT NO TIME FOR THIS!
I HAVE TO DEAL WITH CARNAGE!

AWOOOGAH!
AWOOOGAH!
WHAT'S GOING ON--?
--WHY IS THE ALARM GOING OFF?
THE WHOLE SECURITY SYSTEM COMPUTER IS DOWN!
SOME OF THE SPECIAL CELLS MAY BE UNLOCKED!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THE SYSTEM HAS BACK-UPS FOR ITS BACK-UPS!
SOMEBODY HACKED THEIR WAY THROUGH AND DISABLED EVERYTHING!
ACTIVATE THE SUPPRESSION DEVICES--
THEY AIN'T WORKING EITHER, SWEET-CAKES!
WHO--?

YOU KNOOOOOW WHO IT IS, SWEETUMS!!
IT'S YOUR EVER-LOVIN', TOTALLY UNFRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD--
CARNAGE!
NEXT ISSUE: CARNAGE AND VENOM, HEAD TO HEAD!

MARVEL COMICS
2
MAY
VENOM
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
CARNAGE UNLEASHED
PART TWO OF FOUR

WE'RE ONLY BACK IN NEW YORK CITY FOR FIVE MINUTES AND ALREADY WE'VE GOT CARNAGE DEFENESTRATING CITIZENS FROM SKYSCRAPERS!
WE KNOW YOU'RE UP THERE, CARNAGE!
WE CAN SEE YOUR NASTY LITTLE TENDRILS RETRACTING THROUGH THE SHATTERED WINDOW!
WHERE DID HE FALL FROM?
UP THERE. THE HEADQUARTERS OF EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE VIDEO GAMES...
YOU KNOW THEIR MOTTO, "WE MAY BE BRUTAL, BUT AT LEAST WE'RE NON-REPLICABLE!"
...TIME TO ROCK AND ROLL, KIDDIES...!!
HUH?
EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE

SAID THE JOKER TO THE THIEF

...SCRIPTED FURIOUSLY BY LARRY HAMA
PENCIL BREAKDOWNED MANIACALLY BY ANDREW WILDMAN
FINISHED INKED FURIOUSLY BY JOE RUBINSTEIN
COLORED VEHEMENTLY BY TOM SMITH
LETTERED SAVAGELY BY KEN LOPEZ
EDITED CONTENTIOUSLY BY ERIC FEIN
GROUP EDITOR--DANNY FINGEROTH
EDITOR IN CHIEF--BOB BUDIANSKY

Presented by STAN LEE

...IT'S PAYBACK TIME AT RAVENCROFT--!!!

--TIME TO RIP OFF FACES AND SUCK OUT BRAINS!!

EEYAAA!

SSZZRIP

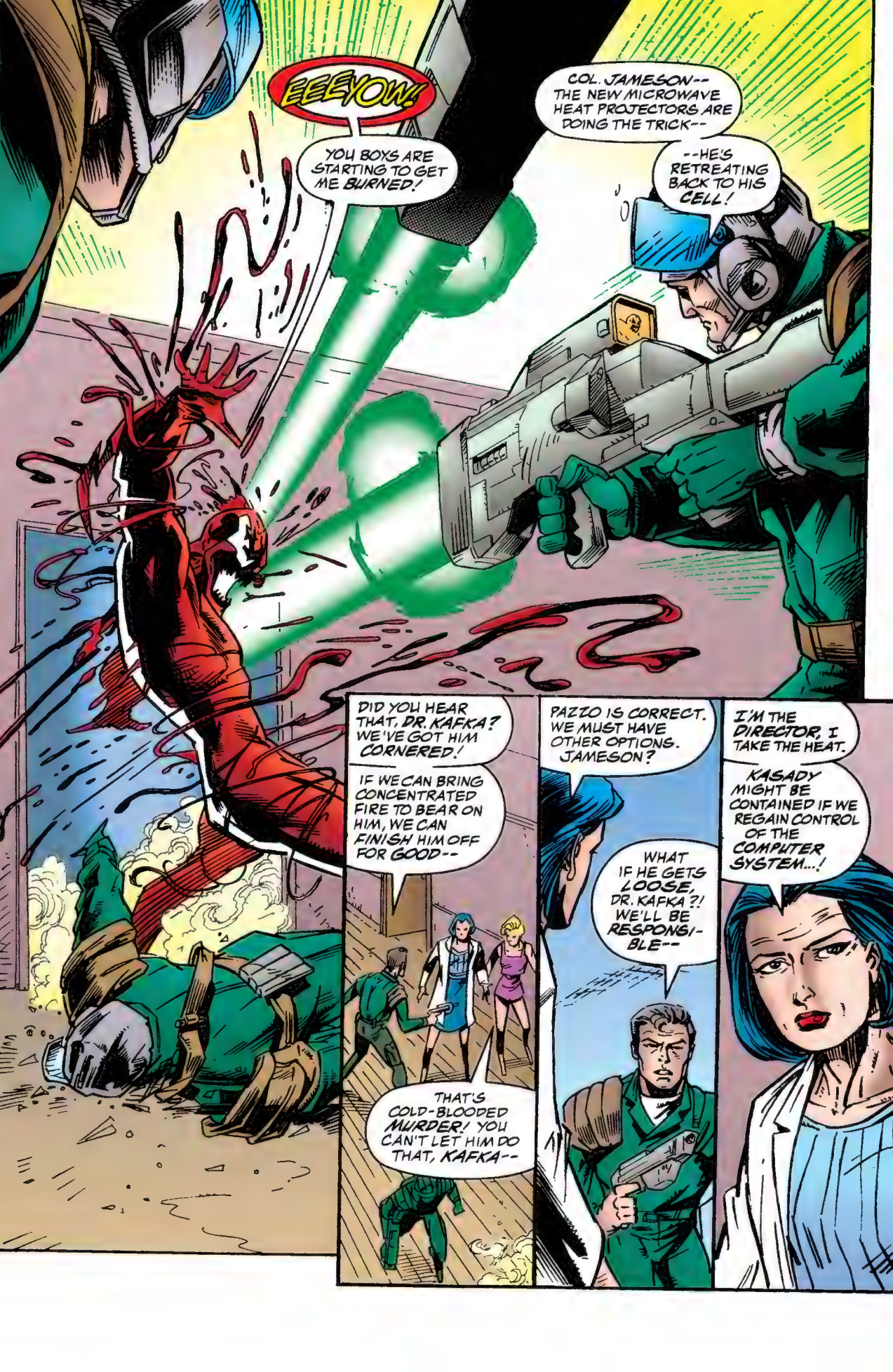
SHUNNG

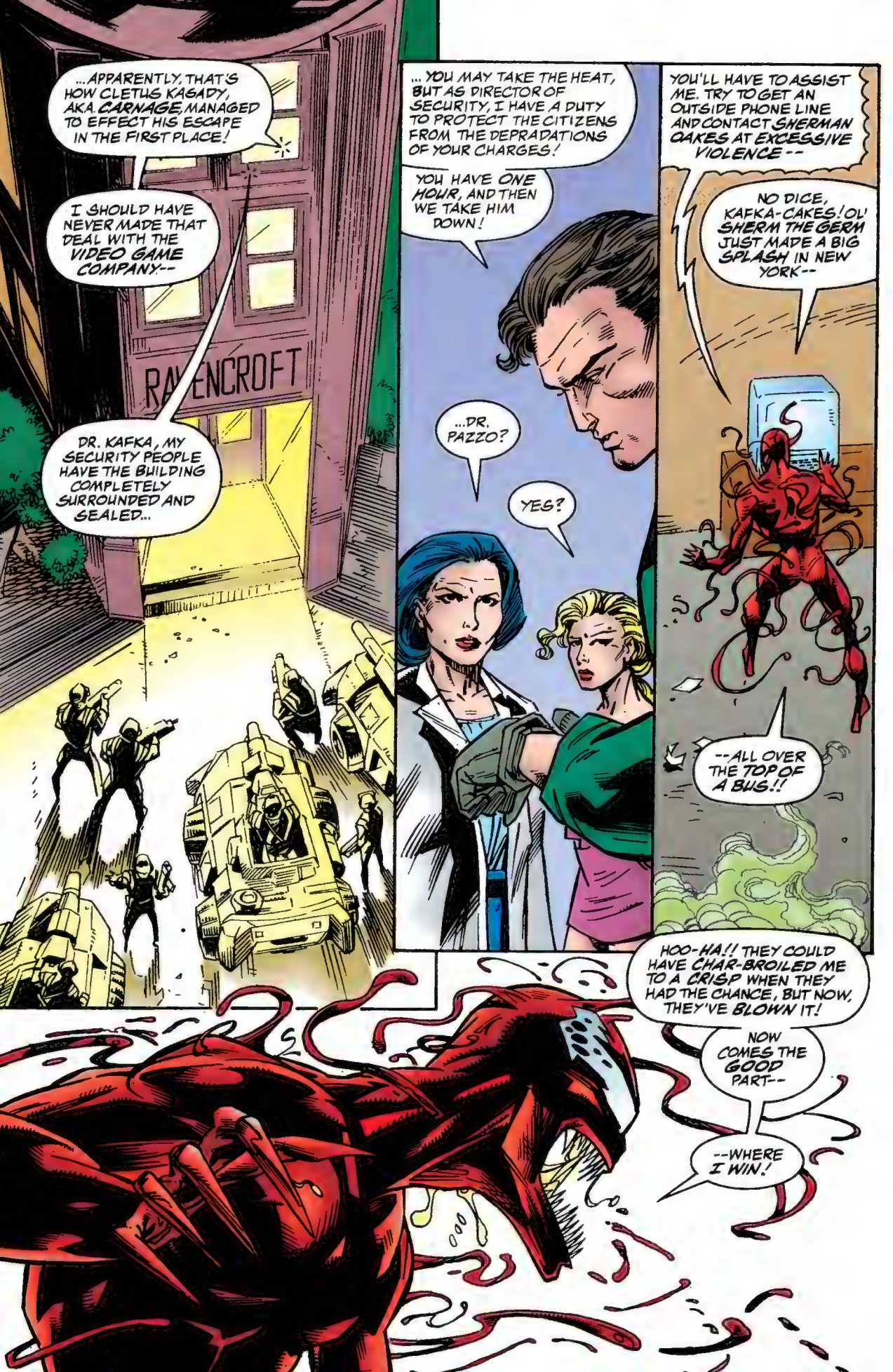
CARNAGE! HE'S BACK IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY ASYLUM, BUT HOW COULD THAT BE WHEN WE JUST SAW THE SYMBIOTE TENDRILS HERE!

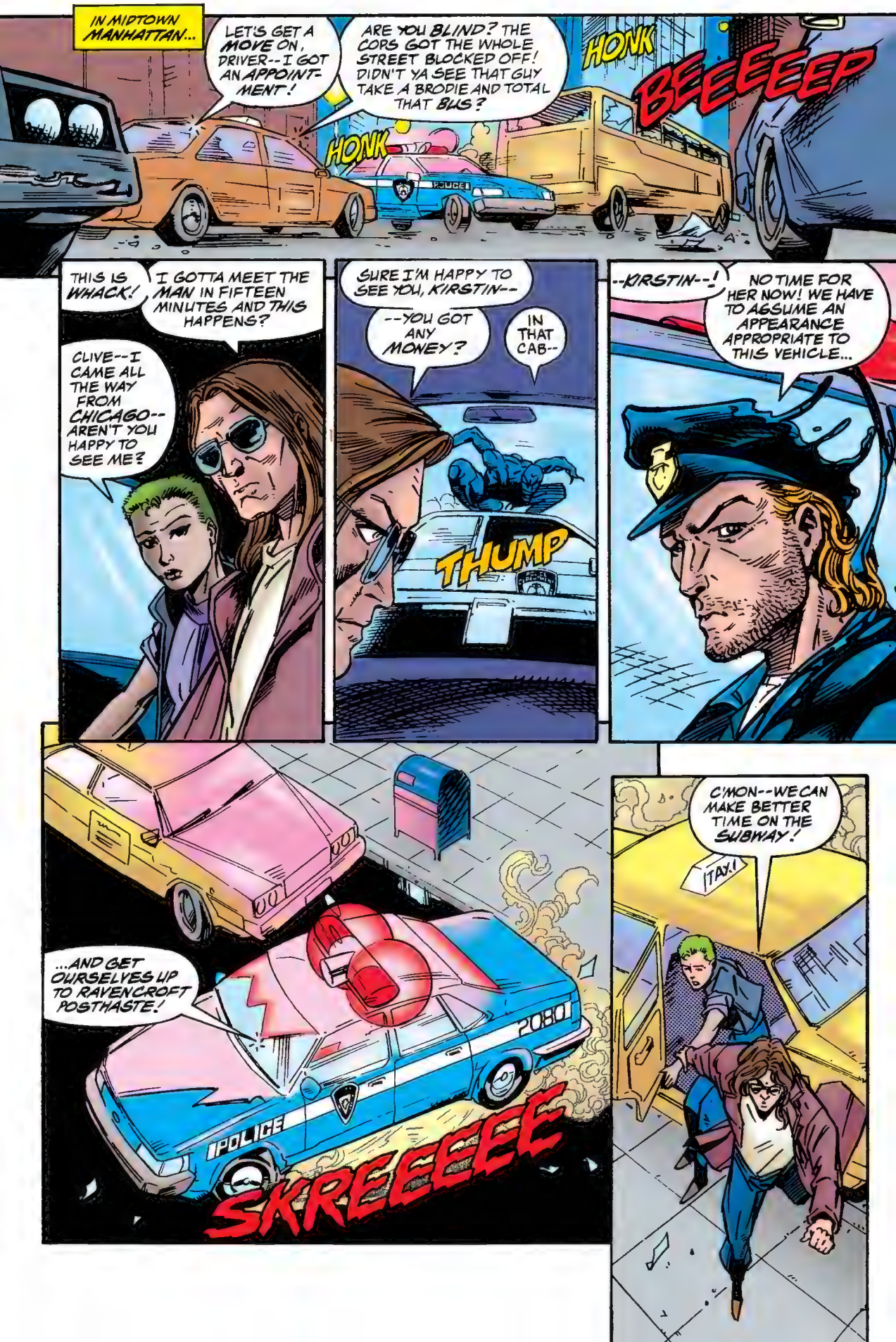
THEY WERE DISAPPEARING INTO THE COMPUTER MONITOR!

COULD THAT MURDEROUS MANIAC HAVE DISCOVERED A WAY FOR HIS OTHER TO TRAVEL THROUGH THE PHONE LINES VIA A MODEM??

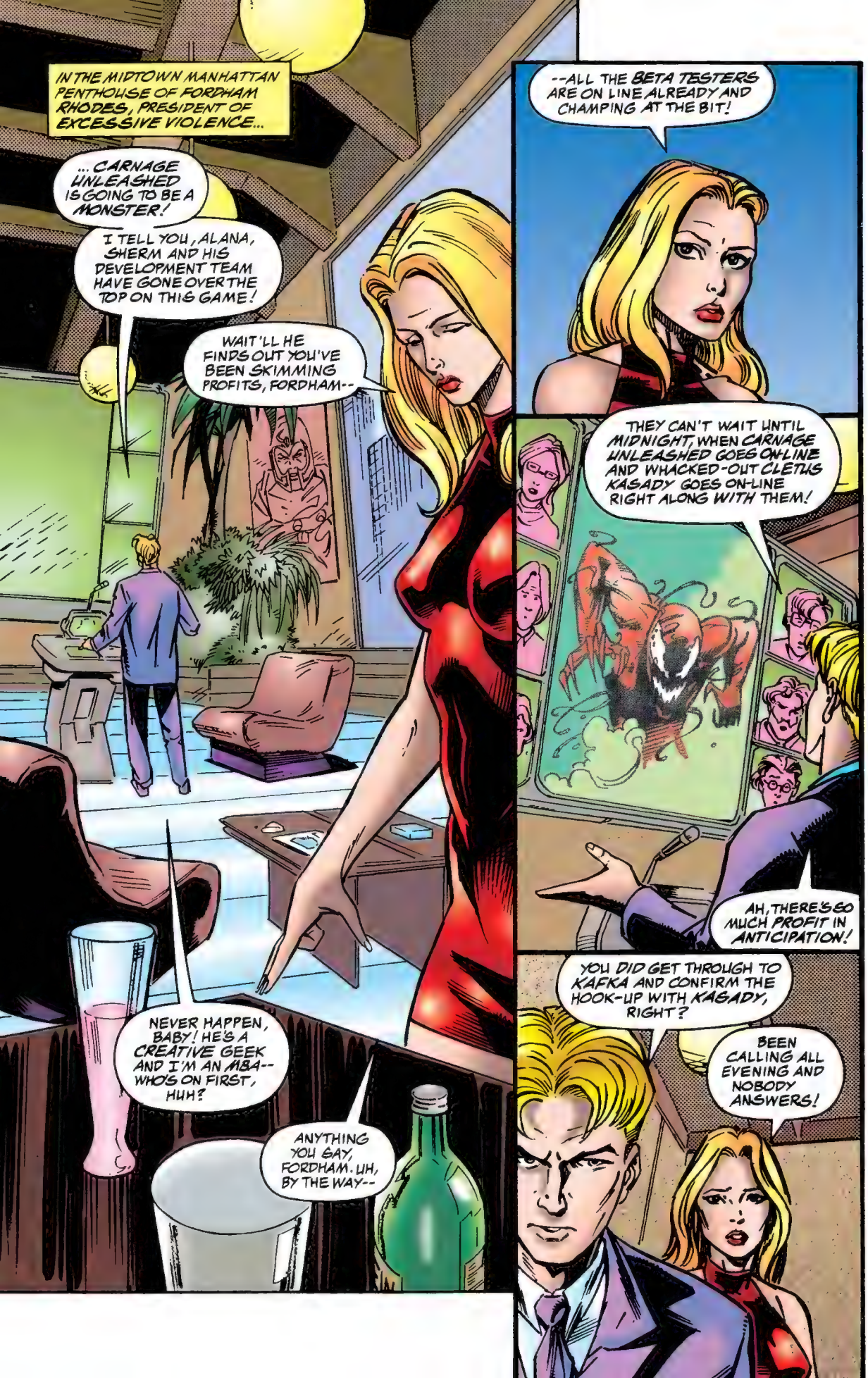
EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE


EEEYOW!
YOU BOYS ARE STARTING TO GET ME BURNED!
COL. JAMESON-- THE NEW MICROWAVE HEAT PROJECTORS ARE DOING THE TRICK--
--HE'S RETREATING BACK TO HIS CELL!
DID YOU HEAR THAT, DR. KAFKA? WE'VE GOT HIM CORNERED!
IF WE CAN BRING CONCENTRATED FIRE TO BEAR ON HIM, WE CAN FINISH HIM OFF FOR GOOD--
THAT'S COLD-BLOODED MURDER! YOU CAN'T LET HIM DO THAT, KAFKA--
PAZZO IS CORRECT. WE MUST HAVE OTHER OPTIONS. JAMESON?
WHAT IF HE GETS LOOSE, DR. KAFKA?! WE'LL BE RESPONSI-BLE--
I'M THE DIRECTOR, I TAKE THE HEAT.
KASADY MIGHT BE CONTAINED IF WE REGAIN CONTROL OF THE COMPUTER SYSTEM...!


...APPARENTLY, THAT'S HOW CLETUS KASADY, AKA. CARNAGE, MANAGED TO EFFECT HIS ESCAPE IN THE FIRST PLACE!
I SHOULD HAVE NEVER MADE THAT DEAL WITH THE VIDEO GAME COMPANY--
RAVENCROFT
DR. KAFKA, MY SECURITY PEOPLE HAVE THE BUILDING COMPLETELY SURROUNDED AND SEALED...
...YOU MAY TAKE THE HEAT, BUT AS DIRECTOR OF SECURITY, I HAVE A DUTY TO PROTECT THE CITIZENS FROM THE DEPRADATIONS OF YOUR CHARGES!
YOU HAVE ONE HOUR, AND THEN WE TAKE HIM DOWN!
...DR. PAZZO?
YES?
YOU'LL HAVE TO ASSIST ME. TRY TO GET AN OUTSIDE PHONE LINE AND CONTACT SHERMAN OAKES AT EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE --
NO DICE, KAFKA-CAKES! OL' SHERM THE GERM JUST MADE A BIG SPLASH IN NEW YORK--
--ALL OVER THE TOP OF A BUS!!
HOO-HA!! THEY COULD HAVE CHAR-BROILED ME TO A CRISP WHEN THEY HAD THE CHANCE, BUT NOW, THEY'VE BLOWN IT!
NOW COMES THE GOOD PART--
--WHERE I WIN!


IN MIDTOWN MANHATTAN...
LET'S GET A MOVE ON, DRIVER--I GOT AN APPOINTMENT!
ARE YOU BLIND? THE COPS GOT THE WHOLE STREET BLOCKED OFF! DIDN'T YA SEE THAT GUY TAKE A BRODIE AND TOTAL THAT BUS?
HONK
HONK
BEEEEEEP
POLICE
THIS IS WHACK!
I GOTTA MEET THE MAN IN FIFTEEN MINUTES AND THIS HAPPENS?
CLIVE--I CAME ALL THE WAY FROM CHICAGO--AREN'T YOU HAPPY TO SEE ME?
SURE I'M HAPPY TO SEE YOU, KIRSTIN--
--YOU GOT ANY MONEY?
IN THAT CAB--
THUMP
--KIRSTIN--!
NO TIME FOR HER NOW! WE HAVE TO ASSUME AN APPEARANCE APPROPRIATE TO THIS VEHICLE...
...AND GET OURSELVES UP TO RAVENCROFT POSTHASTE!
POLICE
2080
SKREEEEE
C'MON--WE CAN MAKE BETTER TIME ON THE SUBWAY!
TAXI

WE KNEW IT AS SOON AS WE SAW THAT VIDEO GAME POSTER IN CHICAGO--
--CARNAGE IS JUST USING THESE PEOPLE TO GET FREE!
HEY! YOU CRAZY--
SOMEHOW, HIS SYMBIOTE CAN EXTEND ITSELF ON A MOLECULAR LEVEL ALONG THE PHONE LINES THAT CONNECT THE COMPUTER AT RAVENCROFT WITH THE COMPUTER AT THE GAME COMPANY--
BEEP
VROOM
AWOOOO
THEORETICALLY, CARNAGE CAN SEND HIS OTHER ANYPLACE THAT HAS A TERMINAL AND A MODEM!
WEST SIDE HIGHWAY NORTH
MIGHT AS WELL CHECK THE RADIO...
--AND THIS JUST IN FROM THE NEWSROOM: AN INFORMED SOURCE SAYS THAT THERE HAS BEEN A NEWS BLACKOUT AT THE RAVENCROFT MAXIMUM SECURITY FACILITY FOR THE CRIMINALLY INSANE--
CLICK
OF COURSE THERE'S A BLACKOUT, STUPID--!!
POLICE
--THEY DON'T WANT TO ADMIT THAT CARNAGE IS LOOSE!!!

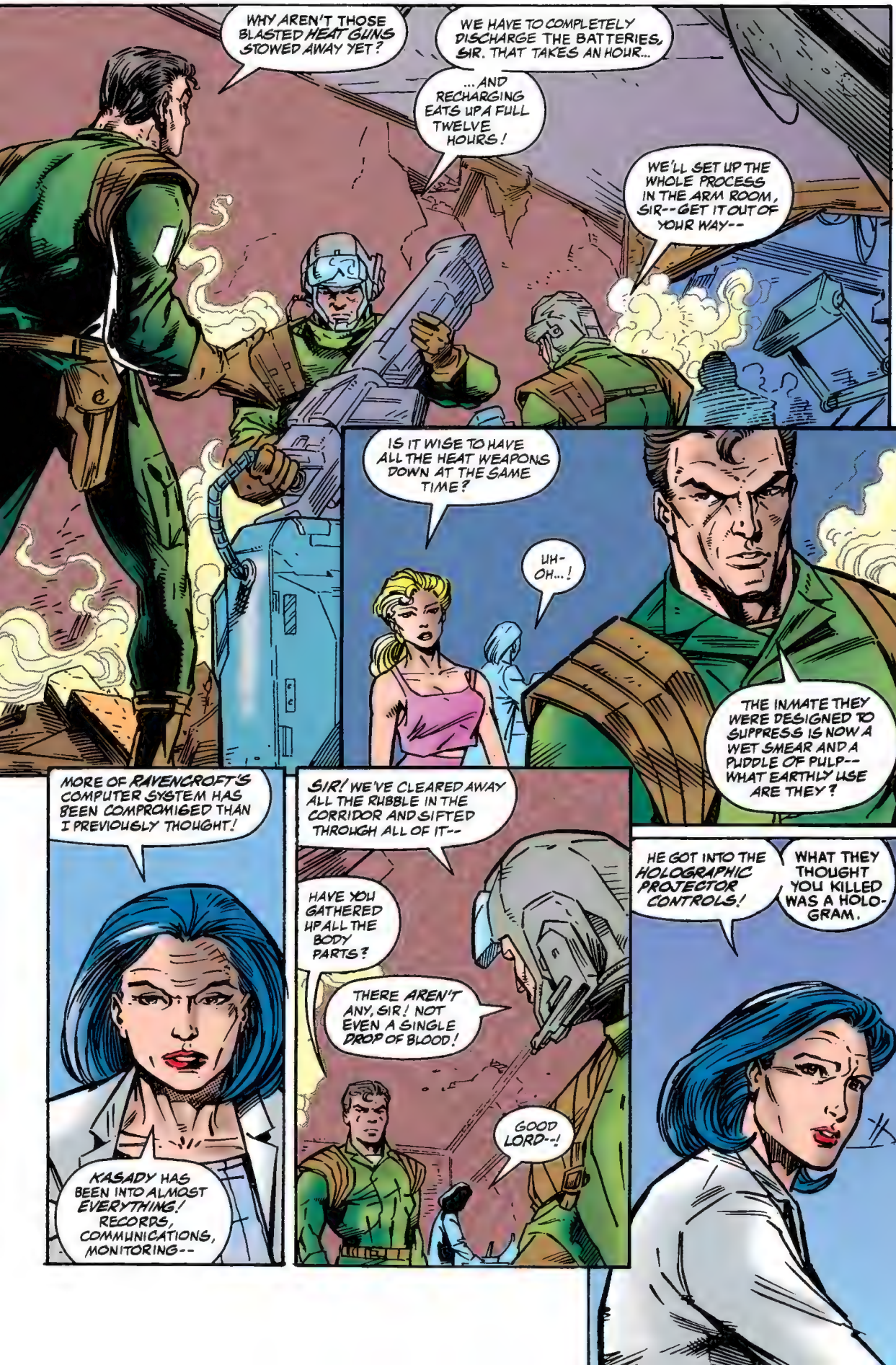

IN THE MIDTOWN MANHATTAN PENTHOUSE OF FORDHAM RHODES, PRESIDENT OF EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE...
...CARNAGE UNLEASHED IS GOING TO BE A MONSTER!
I TELL YOU, ALANA, SHERM AND HIS DEVELOPMENT TEAM HAVE GONE OVER THE TOP ON THIS GAME!
WAIT'LL HE FINDS OUT YOU'VE BEEN SKIMMING PROFITS, FORDHAM--
NEVER HAPPEN, BABY! HE'S A CREATIVE GEEK AND I'M AN MBA--WHO'S ON FIRST, HUH?
ANYTHING YOU SAY, FORDHAM. UH, BY THE WAY--
--ALL THE BETA TESTERS ARE ON LINE ALREADY AND CHAMPING AT THE BIT!
THEY CAN'T WAIT UNTIL MIDNIGHT, WHEN CARNAGE UNLEASHED GOES ON-LINE AND WHACKED-OUT CLETUS KASADY GOES ON-LINE RIGHT ALONG WITH THEM!
AH, THERE'S SO MUCH PROFIT IN ANTICIPATION!
YOU DID GET THROUGH TO KAFKA AND CONFIRM THE HOOK-UP WITH KASADY, RIGHT?
BEEN CALLING ALL EVENING AND NOBODY ANSWERS!

DR. KAFKA--ALL THE PHONE LINES ARE DEAD! THE EXCHANGE STATION FOR THIS WHOLE AREA IS DOWN!
OUR INFAMOUS INMATE HAS BEEN QUITE A BUSY LITTLE HACKER.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE LET YOU INTERVIEW HIM IN HIS CELL--HE USED HIS COOPERATION AS LEVERAGE FOR MORE COMPUTER TIME!
OH, COME OFF IT, KAFKA! I WAS PROJECTING A HOLOGRAM OF MYSELF INTO HIS CELL AND BESIDES--
--IT WAS YOU WHO MADE THE DEAL FOR THE COMPUTER GAME!
TIME'S UP, LADIES.
WE ARE GOING TO GIVE HIM THE OPTION OF VOLUNTARY SUBMISSION TO REINCARCERATION--
--AND WHEN HE REFUSES, WE'RE GOING TO SUBDUE HIM WITH GRENADE LAUNCHERS, MISSILES AND FLAME-THROWERS!
THAT'S TANTAMOUNT TO MURDER!
"THE SECURITY CHIEF MAY EXERCISE HIS OPTION TO EMPLOY DEADLY FORCE AGAINST AN INMATE IN THE ACT OF ESCAPING IF THE SAFETY OF SECURITY PERSONNEL OR CIVILIANS IS IN PERIL."
THIS SICK PUPPY HAS KILLED FIVE OF MY GUARDS--HE'S GOING DOWN!
MR. JAMESON--!!

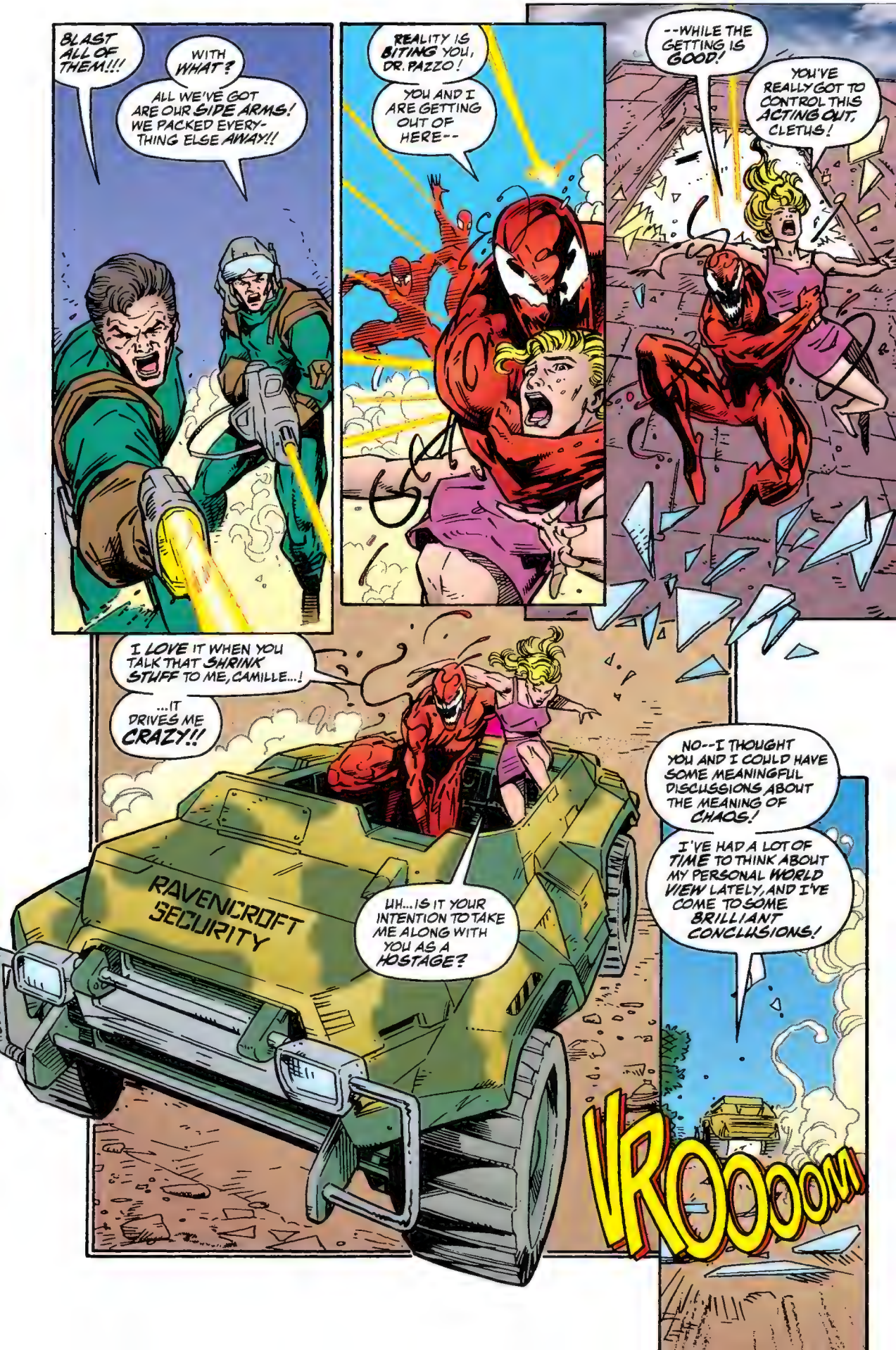
--HERE HE COMES AGAIN!!
HALT! PUT YOUR HANDS ABOVE YOUR HEAD AND FACE THE WALL!!
USE THE HEAT PROJECTORS FIRST--!
GIVE HIM HIS LEGAL WARNING!!!
NO WAY--
HIT HIM WITH THE MICROWAVES!
--YOU DIDN'T SAY "SIMON SAYS"!!
MISSILE AND GRENADE LAUNCHER TEAMS, FRONT AND CENTER!!
HOO-HA!
THE HEAT GUNS AREN'T HAVING ANY AFFECT ON HIM!!
GOOD LORD, JAMESON--
BACK OFF, KAFKA--THIS IS MY SHOW, NOW!

FOOM
FOOM
FIRE!!!
KA-THOOM
THAT DID IT!!
MADE KIBBLES & BITS™ OUT OF THAT PSYCHO-PUPPY, WE DID!
ALL RIGHT, STAND DOWN THE HEAVY HARDWARE AND GET THOSE USELESS HEAT GUNS OUT OF MY SIGHT!
GET THE ENGINEERS IN HERE TO CLEAR THE RUBBLE AND SCRAPE UP THE PIECES OF KASADY--
THAT WAS BLATANT OVER-REACTION!
BETTER THAN UNDERREACTING AND BEING DEAD.

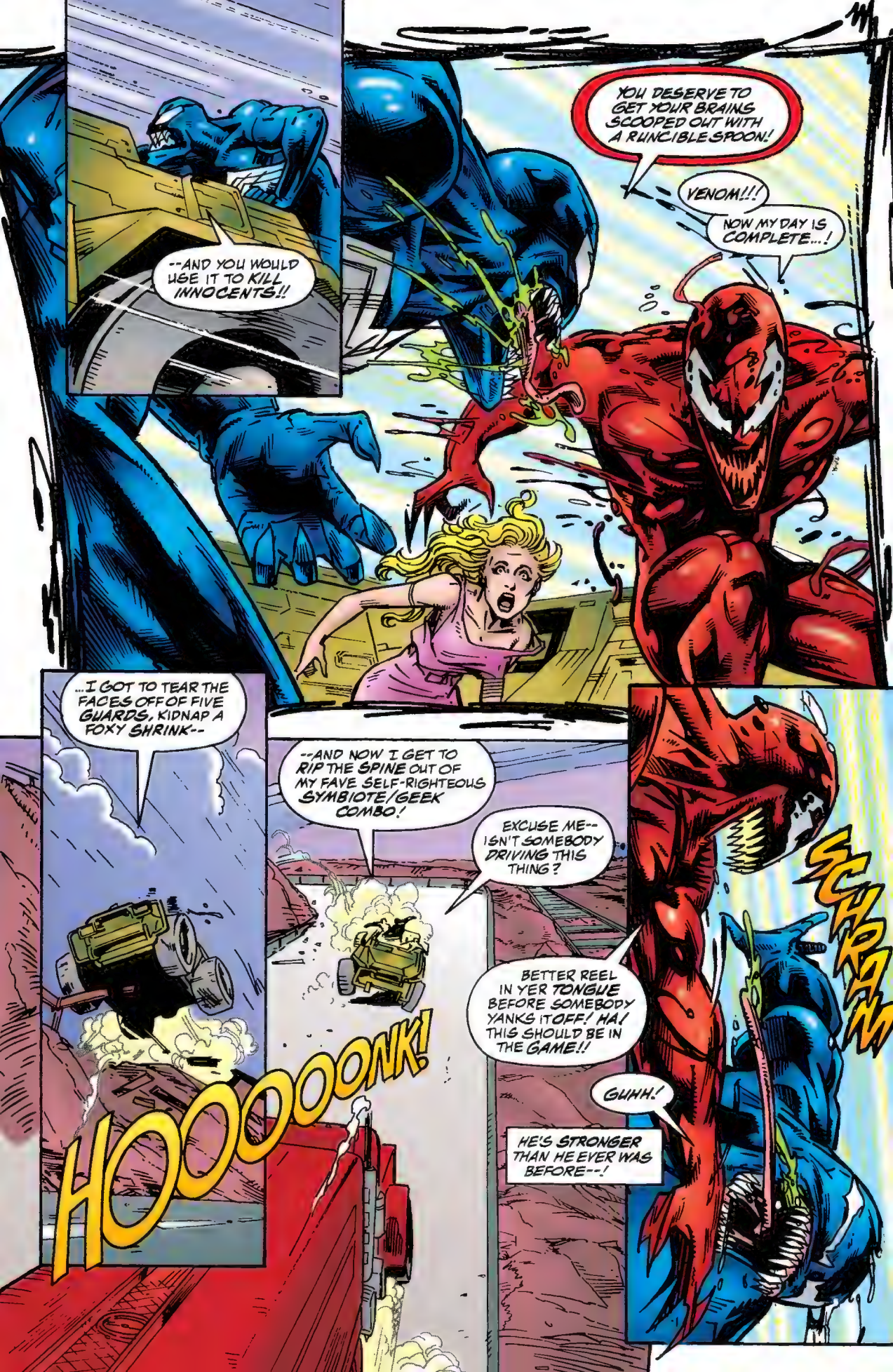
IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
...IT'S NOT MUCH, BUT I PLAN ON FIXING IT UP WHEN MY NATIONAL ENDOWMENT GRANT COMES THROUGH.
GOSH, IT'S--
--IT'S JUST THE WAY I IMAGINED IT WOULD BE!
LOOK, HAVE YOU GOT ANY MONEY OR WHAT...??
...THERE'S THINGS THAT GOTTA GET DONE, PEOPLE WHO GOTTA GET MET, STUFF THAT NEEDS TO GET COPPED--!
I'VE GOT THE MONEY I WAS SAVING TO BUY AN AMP...
THIS WILL DO NICELY.
YOU MAKE YOURSELF RIGHT AT HOME AND I'LL BE BACK--WHEN I GET BACK!
PLINK
PLINK
♫ I LEFT THE WINDY CITY WHERE I WAS A PRISONER OF MY DREAMS AND NOW I AM A PAROLEE IN THE BIG BAD APPLE WHERE NOTHING IS WHAT IT SEEMS... ♫


WHY AREN'T THOSE BLASTED HEAT GUNS STOWED AWAY YET?
WE HAVE TO COMPLETELY DISCHARGE THE BATTERIES, SIR. THAT TAKES AN HOUR...
...AND RECHARGING EATS UP A FULL TWELVE HOURS!
WE'LL SET UP THE WHOLE PROCESS IN THE ARM ROOM, SIR--GET IT OUT OF YOUR WAY--
IS IT WISE TO HAVE ALL THE HEAT WEAPONS DOWN AT THE SAME TIME?
UH-OH...!
THE INMATE THEY WERE DESIGNED TO SUPPRESS IS NOW A WET SMEAR AND A PUDDLE OF PULP--WHAT EARTHLY USE ARE THEY?
MORE OF RAVENCROFT'S COMPUTER SYSTEM HAS BEEN COMPROMISED THAN I PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT!
KASADY HAS BEEN INTO ALMOST EVERYTHING! RECORDS, COMMUNICATIONS, MONITORING--
SIR! WE'VE CLEARED AWAY ALL THE RUBBLE IN THE CORRIDOR AND SIFTED THROUGH ALL OF IT--
HAVE YOU GATHERED UP ALL THE BODY PARTS?
THERE AREN'T ANY, SIR! NOT EVEN A SINGLE DROP OF BLOOD!
GOOD LORD--!
HE GOT INTO THE HOLOGRAPHIC PROJECTOR CONTROLS!
WHAT THEY THOUGHT YOU KILLED WAS A HOLOGRAM.

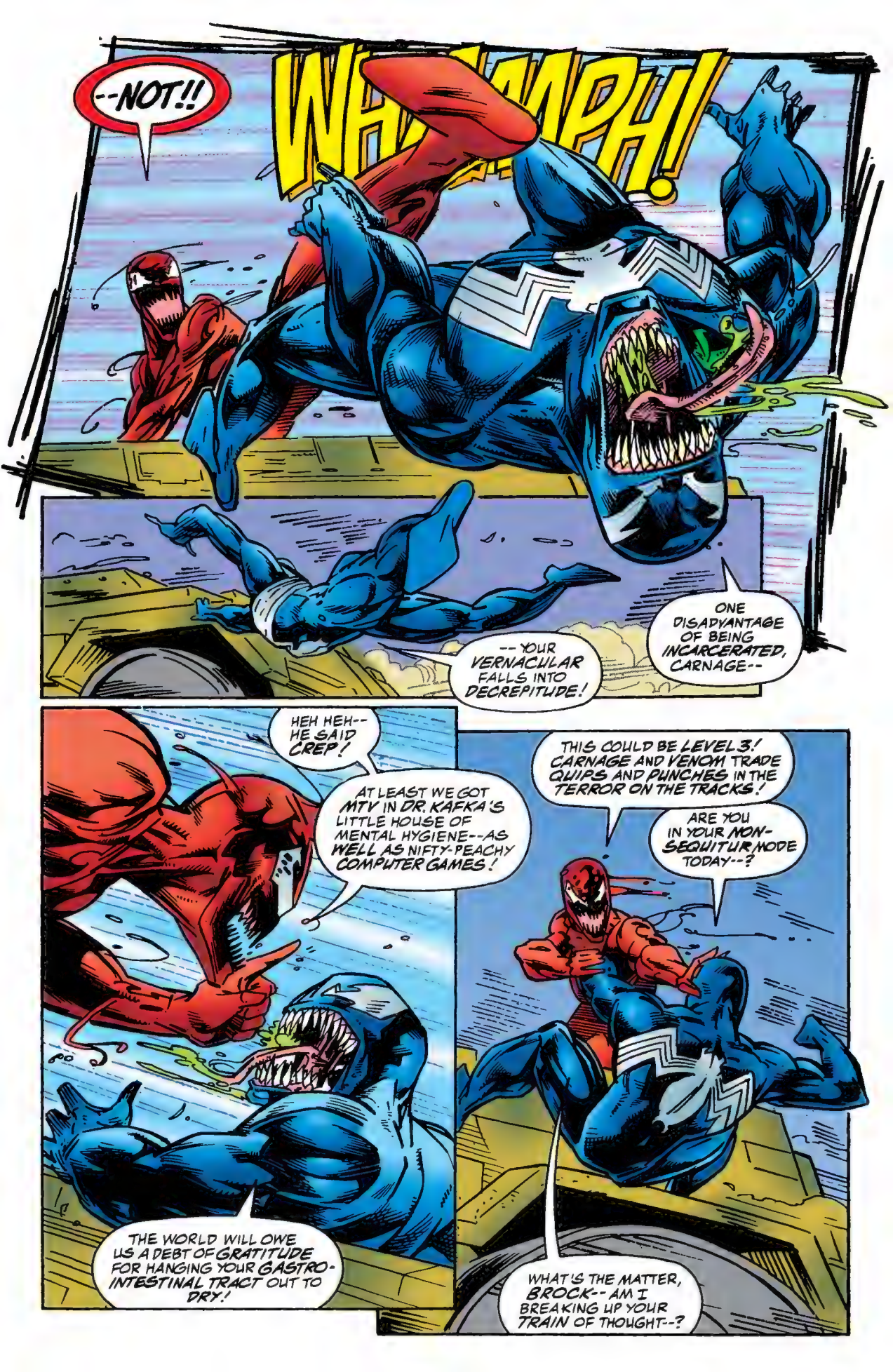
THAT'S RIGHT, FOLKS!
I SURE DO HAVE THE HOLOGRAM CONTROLS!
--AND SO DO I!
--AND SO DO I!
--AND SO DO I!
--AND SO DO I!
--ME TOO!
SHUT DOWN THE WHOLE COMPUTER SYSTEM! CUT HIM OFF!
I CAN'T!
THE SECURITY SYSTEM HAS TWO BACK-UPS BUILT IN AS A SAFETY FEATURE!
COME ON, JAMESON! TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT AT ME!
I DOUBLE-DOG DARE YOU--!
--IF YOU CAN FIGURE OUT WHICH ONE OF US IS THE REAL ONE!


BLAST ALL OF THEM!!!
WITH WHAT?
ALL WE'VE GOT ARE OUR SIDE ARMS! WE PACKED EVERYTHING ELSE AWAY!!
REALITY IS BITING YOU, DR. PAZZO!
YOU AND I ARE GETTING OUT OF HERE--
--WHILE THE GETTING IS GOOD!
YOU'VE REALLY GOT TO CONTROL THIS ACTING OUT, CLETUS!
I LOVE IT WHEN YOU TALK THAT SHRINK STUFF TO ME, CAMILLE...!
...IT DRIVES ME CRAZY!!
RAVENCROFT SECURITY
UH... IS IT YOUR INTENTION TO TAKE ME ALONG WITH YOU AS A HOSTAGE?
NO--I THOUGHT YOU AND I COULD HAVE SOME MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE MEANING OF CHAOS!
I'VE HAD A LOT OF TIME TO THINK ABOUT MY PERSONAL WORLD VIEW LATELY, AND I'VE COME TO SOME BRILLIANT CONCLUSIONS!
VROOOOM!

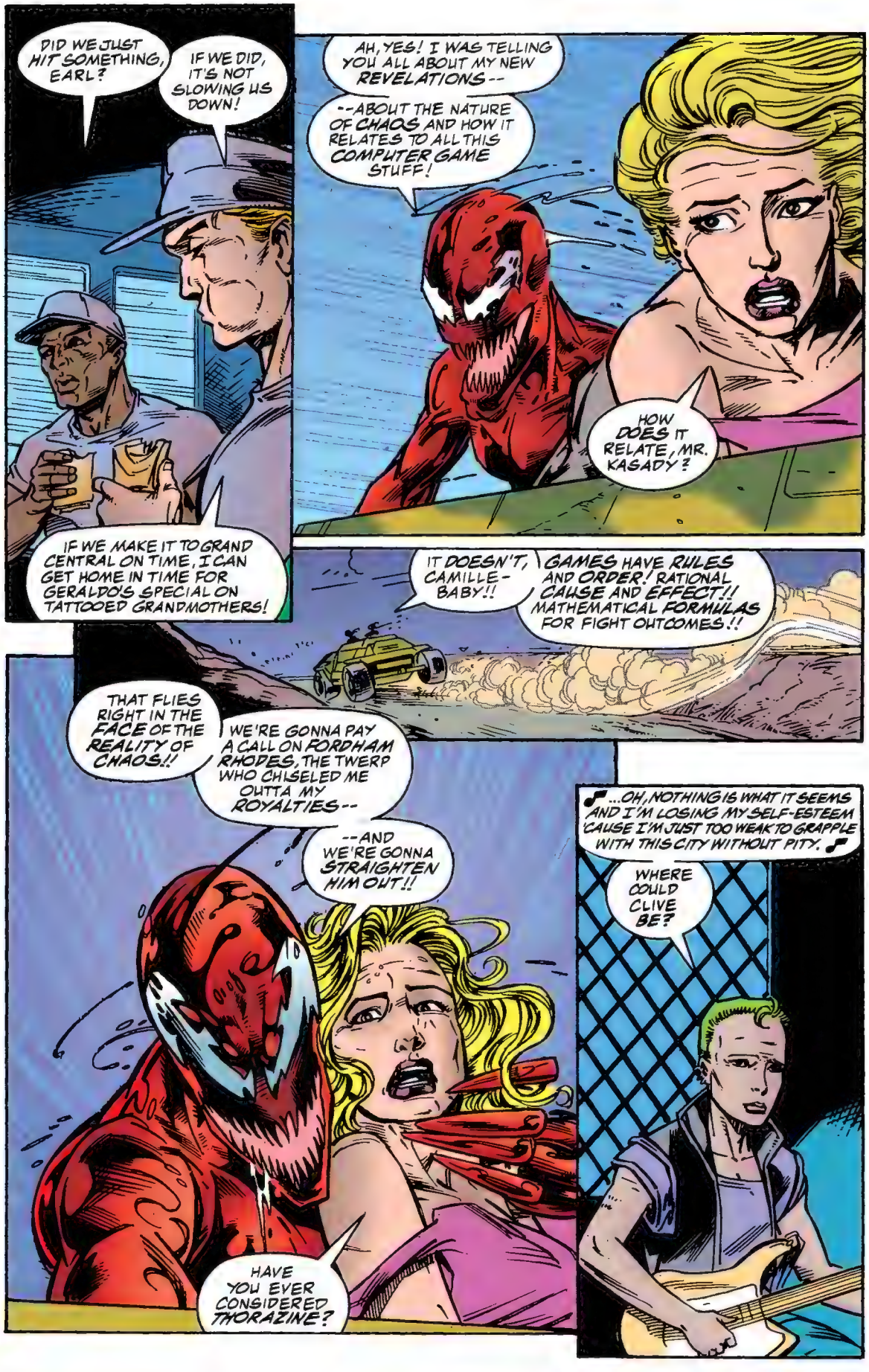
THAT'S RAVENCROFT UP AHEAD!
BUT WHAT'S THAT ARMORED CAR DOING COMING OUT OF THERE AT SUCH A CLIP--?
POLICE
KA-SHUNGG
HA! I ALWAYS WANTED TO DO THAT!!
DIDJA FEEL THAT RUSH, CAMILLE--
--THAT WAS JUST A GLIMPSE OF TRUE CHAOS SPRINGING UP AND GETTING RIGHT IN THE FACE O' THIS BOGUS REALITY WE INHABIT!
I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL WE GET ON THE INTER-STATE AND I GET A CHANCE TO ROLL OVER A WHOLE LINE OF TACKY LITTLE IMPORTS!!
OOOOOH! I CAN HEAR THEM COMMUTERS SQUISHING ALREADY!
YOU'RE AN OBSCENITY, CARNAGE!
YOU WERE GIVEN A GIFT OF POWER FROM THE VERY STARS--


--AND YOU WOULD USE IT TO KILL INNOCENTS!!
YOU DESERVE TO GET YOUR BRAINS SCOOPED OUT WITH A RUNCIBLE SPOON!
VENOM!!!
NOW MY DAY IS COMPLETE...!
...I GOT TO TEAR THE FACES OFF OF FIVE GUARDS, KIDNAP A FOXY SHRINK--
--AND NOW I GET TO RIP THE SPINE OUT OF MY FAVE SELF-RIGHTEOUS SYMBIOTE/GEEK COMBO!
EXCUSE ME-- ISN'T SOMEBODY DRIVING THIS THING?
HOOOOONK!
SCHRAM
BETTER REEL IN YER TONGUE BEFORE SOMEBODY YANKS IT OFF! HA! THIS SHOULD BE IN THE GAME!!
GUHH!
HE'S STRONGER THAN HE EVER WAS BEFORE--!

IS IT A STRENGTH BORN OF INCREASED MADNESS OR HAS HIS ALIEN OTHER UNDERGONE YET ANOTHER MUTATION?
WHICHEVER--THIS EVIL ABERRATION, THIS MALIGNANT MELDING OF THE OFFSHOOT OF MY OTHER AND A PSYCHOPATHIC KILLER MUST BE EXPUNGED--!!
EXTRA POINTS FOR HITTING A GAS TRUCK!
KA-SHUNG
HALF-ON THE METRO-NORTH TRACKS! CAN YOU PICTURE THIS ON THE VIDEO SCREEN--?
THUBBITY
THUBBITY
THUBBITY
AWWW! THE DRIVER GOT OUT!!
WE DON'T GET TO HEAR HIM HOWLING IN PAIN AND AGONY AS HE BURNS TO A CRISP!!
YOU WANT PAIN AND AGONY?
KA THU AK
WE'LL GIVE IT TO YOU IN SPADES!
EEEYOW! YA PUT ME DOWN FOR THE COUNT WITH THAT ONE--
IS IT POSSIBLE TO WORK THIS ALL OUT AFTER WE REGAIN CONTROL OF THIS VEHICLE, GUYS?


--NOT!!
WHAMPH!
ONE DISADVANTAGE OF BEING INCARCERATED, CARNAGE--
--YOUR VERNACULAR FALLS INTO DECREPITUDE!
HEH HEH-- HE SAID CREP!
AT LEAST WE GOT MTV IN DR. KAFKA'S LITTLE HOUSE OF MENTAL HYGIENE--AS WELL AS NIFTY-PEACHY COMPUTER GAMES!
THIS COULD BE LEVEL 3! CARNAGE AND VENOM TRADE QUIPS AND PUNCHES IN THE TERROR ON THE TRACKS!
ARE YOU IN YOUR NON-SEQUITUR MODE TODAY--?
THE WORLD WILL OWE US A DEBT OF GRATITUDE FOR HANGING YOUR GASTRO-INTESTINAL TRACT OUT TO DRY!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, BROCK-- AM I BREAKING UP YOUR TRAIN OF THOUGHT--?

WOOOOOOOO
...AM I DE-RAILING YOUR BRAIN?
MAYBE THEY CAN SCRAPE YOU OFF AT THE NEXT STATION--
--IF THEY HAVE A SPATULA!!!
NOW, WHERE WERE WE, DR. PAZZO--?
KA-SPLATT


DID WE JUST HIT SOMETHING, EARL?
IF WE DID, IT'S NOT SLOWING US DOWN!
IF WE MAKE IT TO GRAND CENTRAL ON TIME, I CAN GET HOME IN TIME FOR GERALDO'S SPECIAL ON TATTOOED GRANDMOTHERS!
AH, YES! I WAS TELLING YOU ALL ABOUT MY NEW REVELATIONS--
--ABOUT THE NATURE OF CHAOS AND HOW IT RELATES TO ALL THIS COMPUTER GAME STUFF!
HOW DOES IT RELATE, MR. KASADY?
IT DOESN'T, CAMILLE-BABY!!
GAMES HAVE RULES AND ORDER! RATIONAL CAUSE AND EFFECT!! MATHEMATICAL FORMULAS FOR FIGHT OUTCOMES!!
THAT FLIES RIGHT IN THE FACE OF THE REALITY OF CHAOS!!
WE'RE GONNA PAY A CALL ON FORDHAM RHODES, THE TWERP WHO CHISELED ME OUTTA MY ROYALTIES--
--AND WE'RE GONNA STRAIGHTEN HIM OUT!!
HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED THORAZINE?
♪ ...OH, NOTHING IS WHAT IT SEEMS AND I'M LOSING MY SELF-ESTEEM 'CAUSE I'M JUST TOO WEAK TO GRAPPLE WITH THIS CITY WITHOUT PITY. ♪
WHERE COULD CLIVE BE?

AT GRAND CENTRAL STATION...
SEE? NOTHIN' THERE!
I GUESS IT WAS JUST MY IMAGINATION.
BUT IT SOUNDED JUST LIKE HITTING A BODY--THAT WET SPLAT AND THE SHEET METAL DRUMMING...
REMEMBER THE TIME WE HIT THAT WINO ON THE LOCAL RUN OUT OF CHAPPAQUIDICK?
YEAH, HE WAS SO STEWED HE DIDN'T HEAR US COMING AND--WHAMM! INSTANT JELLO SHOTS!
IT WAS THE SOUND--IT WAS EXACTLY LIKE WHAT WE HEARD BACK UP THE LINE...
WELL, IF WE HIT SOMEONE, HE SURE AS BLAZES WOULD STILL BE SMEARED ALL OVER THE ENGINE, NOW, WOULDN'T HE?
UHHHH...
...WE DID GOOD--
--BLENDING IN WITH THE TRAIN LIKE THAT...
BUT, OH--ARE WE HURTING!
DEFINITELY HAVE TO ASSUME A LOW PROFILE WHILE WE RECUPERATE--
--AND THEN, WE HAVE TO TRACK DOWN CARNAGE AND SETTLE HIS HASH FOR GOOD!
TO BE CONTINUED--LIKE WE HAD TO TELL YOU THAT!

MARVEL COMICS
3
JUN
CARNAGE™ UNLEASHED
PART THREE OF FOUR
VENOM®
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

ON THE SAW MILL RIVER PARKWAY, IN WESTCHESTER...
WHATTAYA SAY, CAMILLE?
AIN'T THIS SOME FUN??
IS THIS RAGING OR WHAT??
IT'S IN THE BEST INTEREST OF PATIENT/DOCTOR RELATIONSHIP FOR YOU TO CALL ME DOCTOR PAZZO, MR. KASADY--
--AND IT WILL GO A LOT EASIER ON YOU IF YOU TURN YOURSELF IN AND RETURN TO RAVENCROFT !!
SCRRRRIII
!IPP!
DEPARTMEN
OF CORRECTION
CLETUS KASADY IS ONLY HALF OF ME, CAMMY-CAKES-- WHEN ME AND MY OTHER ARE RUNNING TOGETHER ON OVERDRIVE --

THERE'S TOO MUCH CONFUSION!

SCHRR!!!PP!

—WE ARE CARNAGE TO THE MAX!

YO, HOME—WASTE THESE SCREWS!

YOU'RE GONNA EAT AN ATTICA COCKTAIL, PSYCHO—

—DOUBLE AUGHT BUCK AND DEER SLUGS!

DON'T DO IT, MIKE—YOU'LL HIT HIS HOSTAGE!

AIIIEEEE!!

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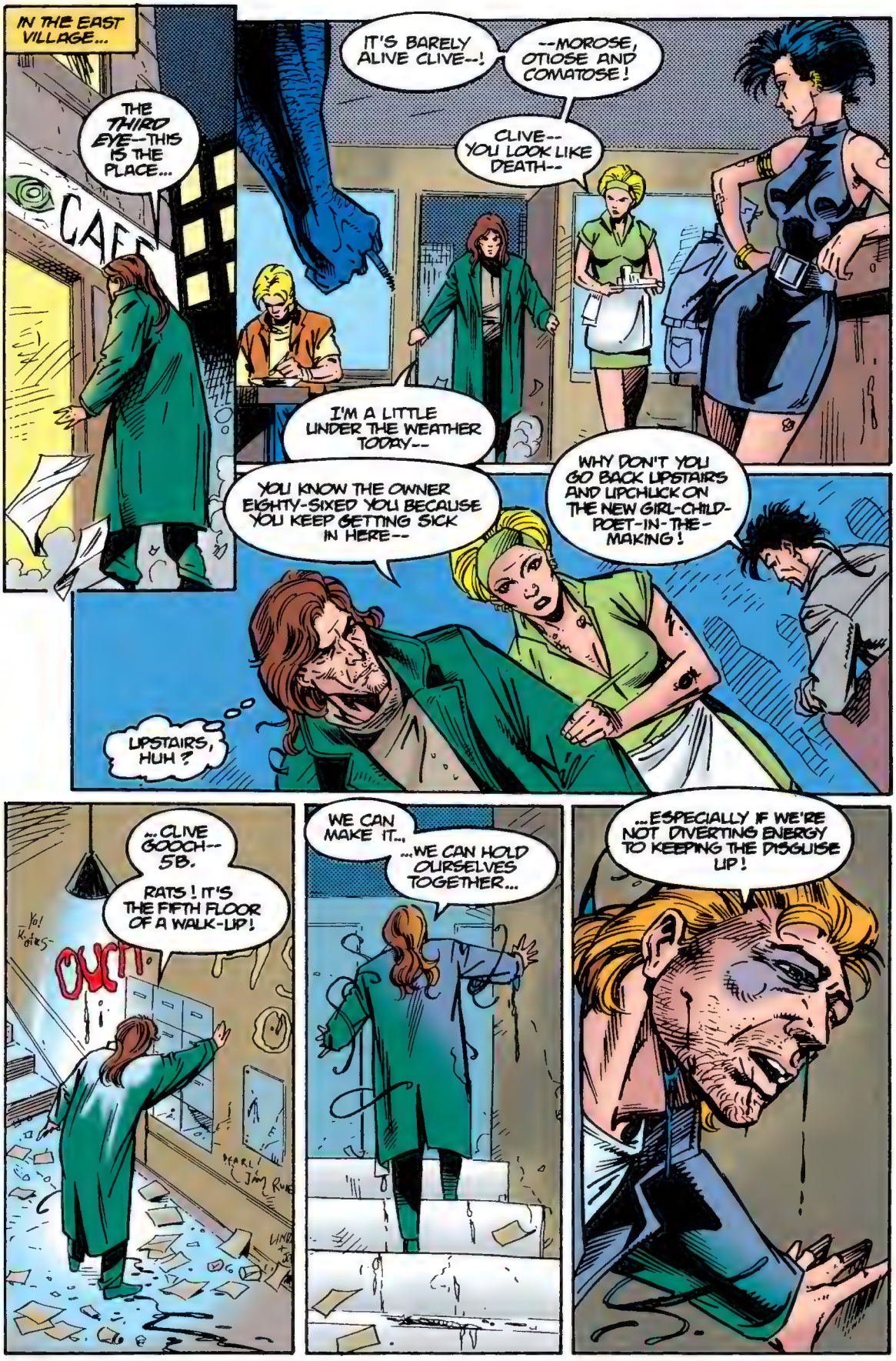
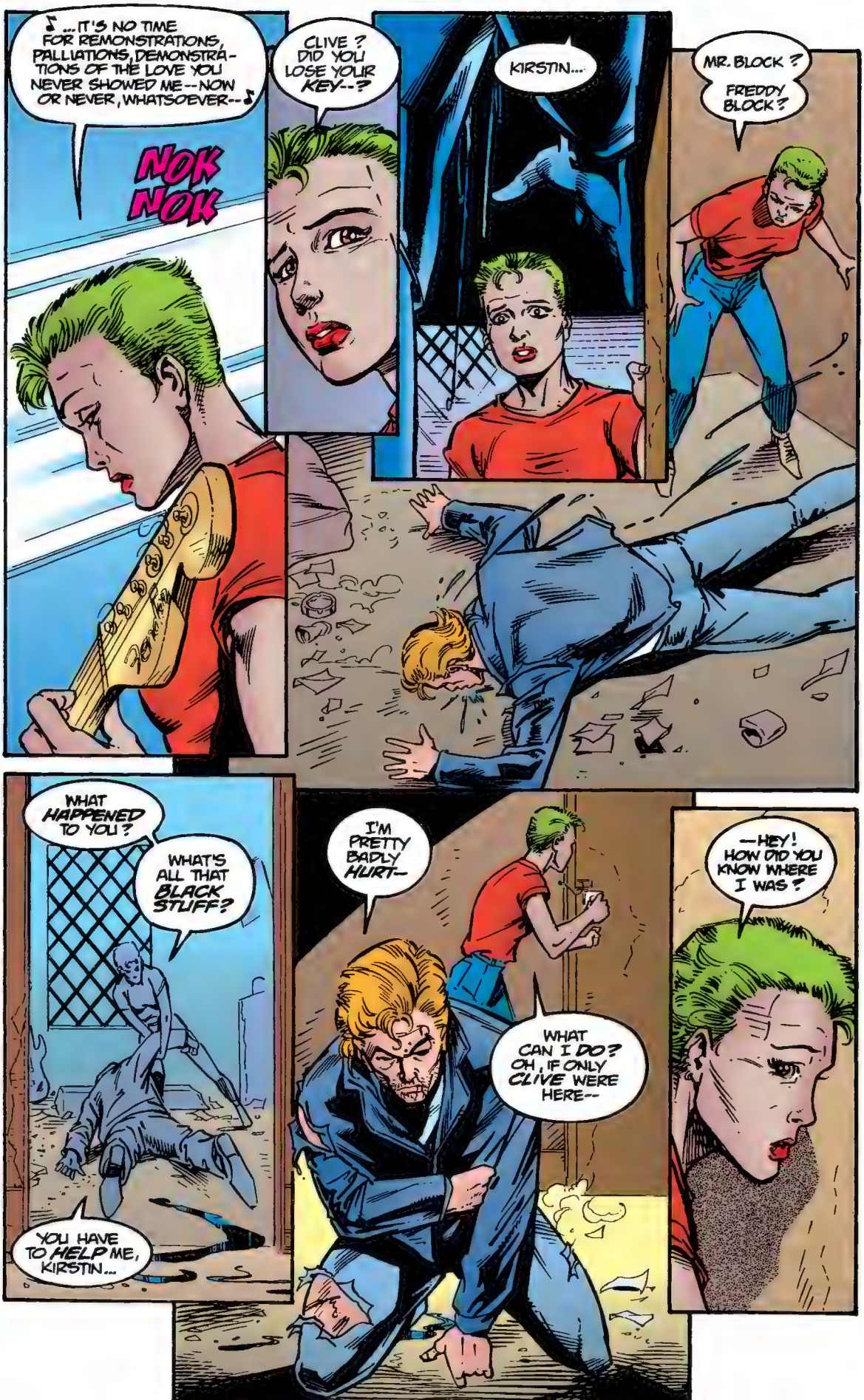
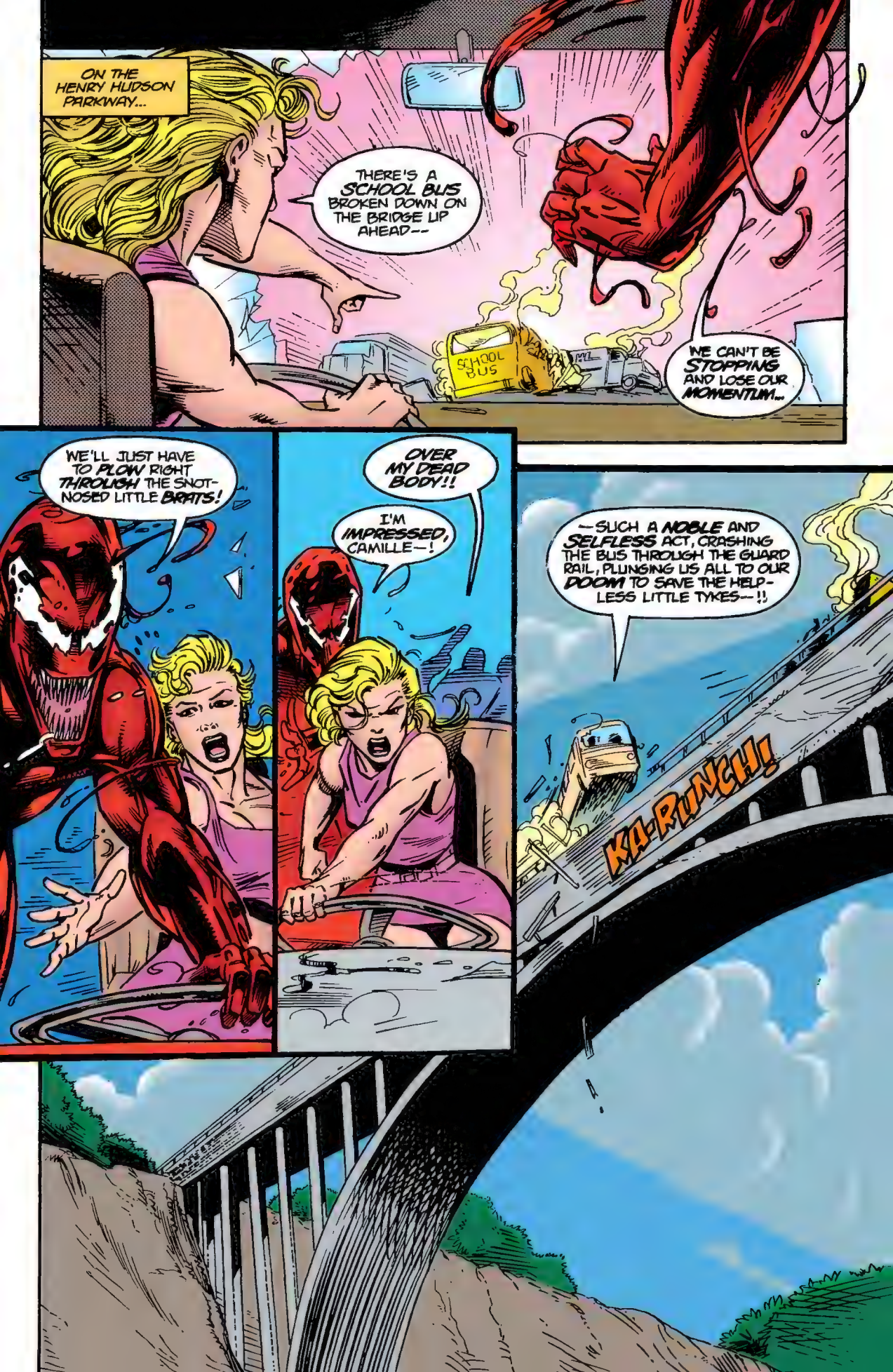
PRESENTED BY— STAN LEE

HOOO...NK
WHAT THE--
I AIN'T BLIND, I SEE THE GIRL...
...BUT I'D RATHER TAKE MY CHANCES WITH THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD--
WHUMP
--THAN WIND UP AS MORGUE MEAT BECAUSE I DIDN'T TAKE MY SHOT!
BLAMM
AW, THIS IS TOO EASY!
LET'S SEE HOW GOOD YOUR AIM IS IF THE BUS IS OUTTA CONTROL!!!
KASADY--! WHAT ARE YOU DOING??
SCHRAKK!
UNGHHH!!
YOU'RE A MANIAC!
YOU'RE TRYIN' TO GET US ALL KILLED!!
DUHHH!! NO KIDDIN', SHERLOCK...!!

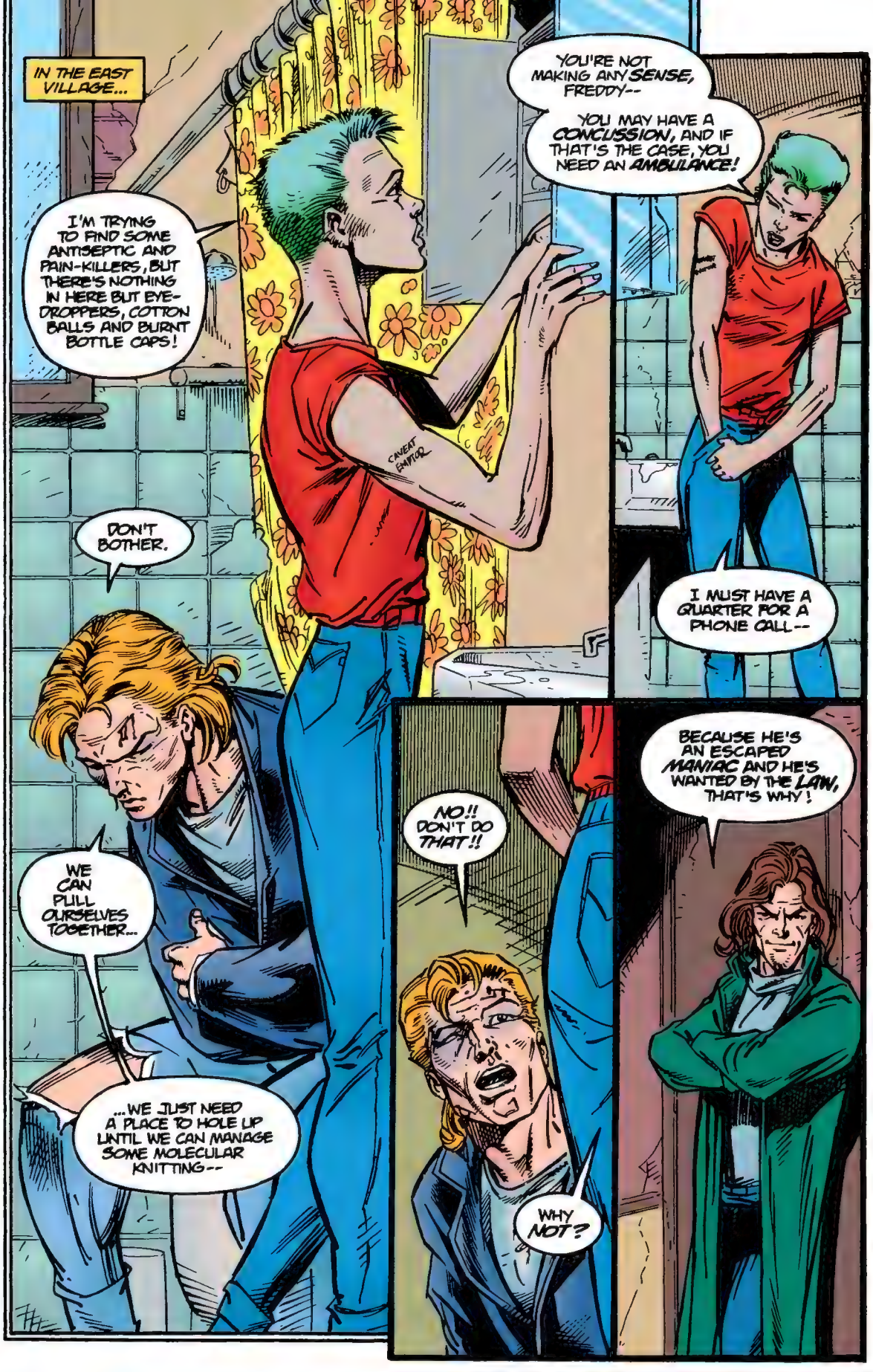
I'M DOIN' A SIGHT BETTER THAN JUST TRYIN'!
SCHRRRIPP!
SOMEBODY HAS TO DRIVE THIS THING--!!
CAMILLE, YOU ARE JUST SO RESPONSIBLE!!
CAR-NAGE! CAR-NAGE!
CUT US LOOSE AND WE'LL BE YOUR BOYS!
WE'LL TEAR NEW YORK APART!
OH, YOU WANT TO BE MY GANG, HUH??
HEY, PRETTY SHRINK-LADY! I BETCHA DIDN'T KNOW I HAD SUCH CHARISMA, DIDJA?
CHARISMA IS PRONOUNCED WITH A HARD 'C', CLETUS...

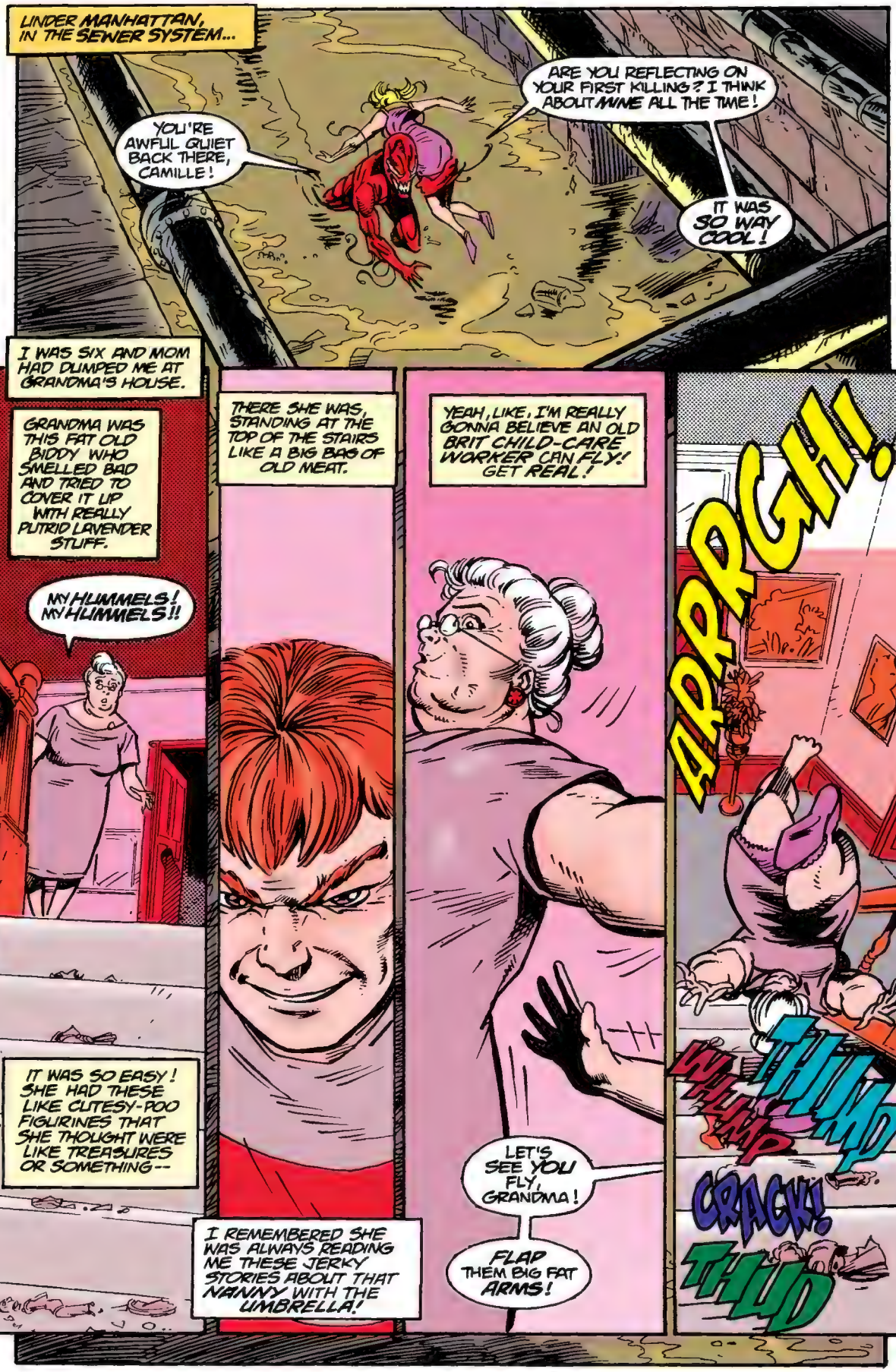

IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
THE THIRD EYE--THIS IS THE PLACE...
CAFE
IT'S BARELY ALIVE CLIVE--!
--MOROSE, OTIOSE AND COMATOSE!
CLIVE--YOU LOOK LIKE DEATH--
I'M A LITTLE UNDER THE WEATHER TODAY--
YOU KNOW THE OWNER EIGHTY-SIXED YOU BECAUSE YOU KEEP GETTING SICK IN HERE--
WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK UPSTAIRS AND LIPCHUCK ON THE NEW GIRL-CHILD-POET-IN-THE-MAKING!
UPSTAIRS, HUH?
...CLIVE GOOCH--5B.
RATS! IT'S THE FIFTH FLOOR OF A WALK-UP!
OUCH!
WE CAN MAKE IT...
...WE CAN HOLD OURSELVES TOGETHER...
...ESPECIALLY IF WE'RE NOT DIVERTING ENERGY TO KEEPING THE DISGUISE UP!


♪ ...IT'S NO TIME FOR REMONSTRATIONS, PALLIATIONS, DEMONSTRATIONS OF THE LOVE YOU NEVER SHOWED ME--NOW OR NEVER, WHATSOEVER--♪
NOK NOK
CLIVE? DID YOU LOSE YOUR KEY--?
KIRSTIN...
MR. BLOCK? FREDDY BLOCK?
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
WHAT'S ALL THAT BLACK STUFF?
YOU HAVE TO HELP ME, KIRSTIN...
I'M PRETTY BADLY HURT--
WHAT CAN I DO? OH, IF ONLY CLIVE WERE HERE--
--HEY! HOW DID YOU KNOW WHERE I WAS?


ON THE HENRY HUDSON PARKWAY...
THERE'S A SCHOOL BUS BROKEN DOWN ON THE BRIDGE UP AHEAD--
SCHOOL BUS
WE CAN'T BE STOPPING AND LOSE OUR MOMENTUM...
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO PLOW RIGHT THROUGH THE SNOT-NOSED LITTLE BRATS!
OVER MY DEAD BODY!!
I'M IMPRESSED, CAMILLE--!
--SUCH A NOBLE AND SELFLESS ACT, CRASHING THE BUS THROUGH THE GUARD RAIL, PLUNGING US ALL TO OUR DOOM TO SAVE THE HELP-LESS LITTLE TYKES--!!
KA-RUNCH!

--PROBABLY THOUGHT YOU WERE DOING THE WORLD A FAVOR BY GETTING RID OF ME, HUH??
THE BEST LAID PLANS OF MICE AND PSYCHOLOGISTS CAN SOMETIMES SLAM FACE-FIRST INTO THE SPEEDING MACK TRUCK OF TOTALLY WHACKED OUT VOODOO CIRCUMSTANCES!!
SAY BYE-BYE TO THE DREGS OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM, CAMILLE--
--THEY'RE GOING SWIMMING WITHOUT US!
EEYYAA!
NOOOOOO!
UNLOCK THE CUFFS! SOMEBODY--
YOU KILLED 'EM, PAZZO-BABY!
I DIDN'T! I--
PA-SHOOM!
YES, YOU DID! YOU'RE REALLY COMING ALONG!
YOU'RE MAKING PROGRESS!
YOU'RE ACTING OUT!

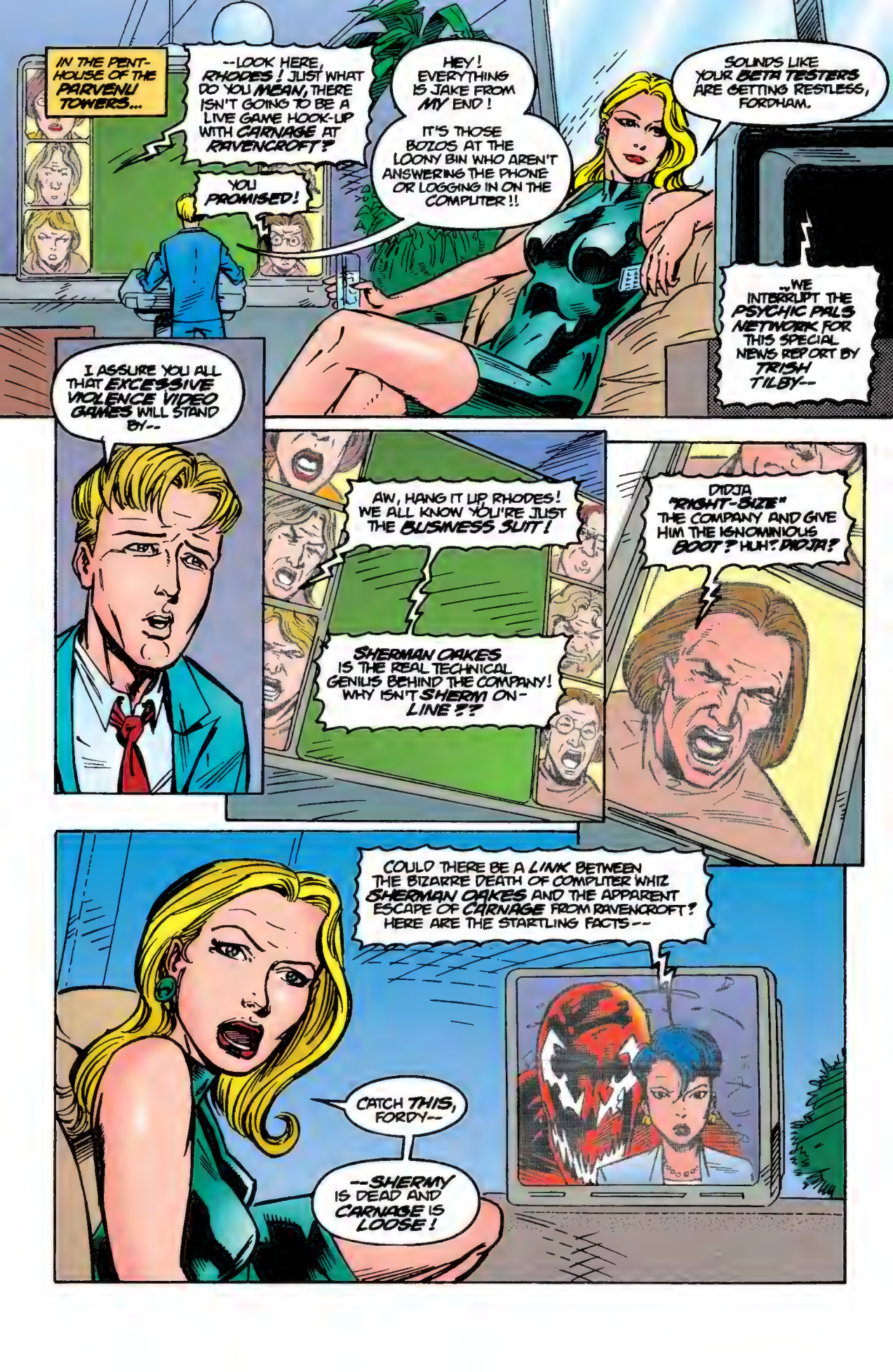

IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
I'M TRYING TO FIND SOME ANTISEPTIC AND PAIN-KILLERS, BUT THERE'S NOTHING IN HERE BUT EYE-DROPPERS, COTTON BALLS AND BURNT BOTTLE CAPS!
YOU'RE NOT MAKING ANY SENSE, FREDDY--
YOU MAY HAVE A CONCUSSION, AND IF THAT'S THE CASE, YOU NEED AN AMBULANCE!
CAVEAT EMPTOR
DON'T BOTHER.
I MUST HAVE A QUARTER FOR A PHONE CALL--
WE CAN PULL OURSELVES TOGETHER...
...WE JUST NEED A PLACE TO HOLE UP UNTIL WE CAN MANAGE SOME MOLECULAR KNITTING--
NO!! DON'T DO THAT!!
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE HE'S AN ESCAPED MANIAC AND HE'S WANTED BY THE LAW, THAT'S WHY!


UNDER MANHATTAN, IN THE SEWER SYSTEM...
YOU'RE AWFUL QUIET BACK THERE, CAMILLE!
ARE YOU REFLECTING ON YOUR FIRST KILLING? I THINK ABOUT MINE ALL THE TIME!
IT WAS SO WAY COOL!
I WAS SIX AND MOM HAD DUMPED ME AT GRANDMA'S HOUSE.
GRANDMA WAS THIS FAT OLD BIDDY WHO SMELLED BAD AND TRIED TO COVER IT UP WITH REALLY PUTRID LAVENDER STUFF.
MY HUMMELS! MY HUMMELS!!
IT WAS SO EASY! SHE HAD THESE LIKE CUTESY-POO FIGURINES THAT SHE THOUGHT WERE LIKE TREASURES OR SOMETHING--
THERE SHE WAS, STANDING AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS LIKE A BIG BAG OF OLD MEAT.
I REMEMBERED SHE WAS ALWAYS READING ME THESE JERKY STORIES ABOUT THAT NANNY WITH THE UMBRELLA!
YEAH, LIKE, I'M REALLY GONNA BELIEVE AN OLD BRIT CHILD-CARE WORKER CAN FLY! GET REAL!
LET'S SEE YOU FLY, GRANDMA!
FLAP THEM BIG FAT ARMS!
ARRRGH!
WHUMP
THUMP
CRACK!
THUD

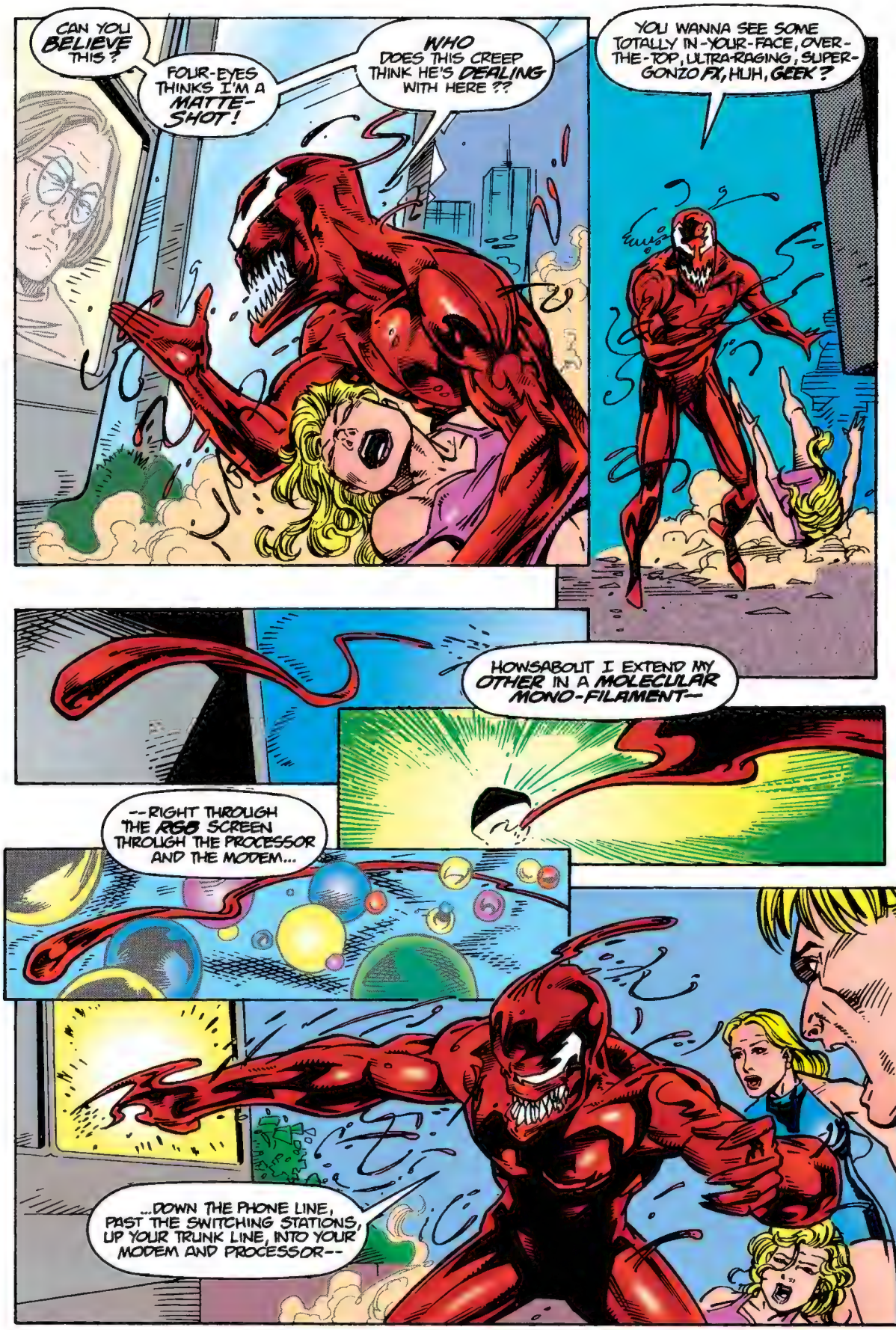
HER NECK SNAPPED LIKE A TWIG! THEY KEPT SAYING HOW AWFUL IT MUST HAVE BEEN FOR ME...!
YEAH RIGHT! I HAD TO WAIT A WHOLE FIVE HOURS FOR MOM TO GET BACK BEFORE I COULD GET ANYTHING FOR DINNER!
THEY SHOULD BRING BACK LOBOTOMIES JUST FOR YOU, KASADY!
OOOOOH! LOSING OUR PROFESSIONAL COOL, ARE WE, CAMMY-CAKES??
WHERE'S YOUR DISTANCE AND OBJECTIVITY?
WHERE'S YOUR COMPASSION FOR AN INNOCENT SOUL CORRUPTED BY A PERVERSE AND UNCARING ENVIRONMENT?
YOU WERE NEVER INNOCENT!
PARVENU TOWERS
NOBODY WAS EVER INNOCENT--!
WHAT WAS THAT?
LOOKED LIKE A RED AND BLACK SUIT--DAREDEVIL?
NAH--HE CHANGED HIS COSTUME--
--EVERYBODY IN THE WORLD IS JUST LIKE ME!
THEY EITHER JUST PRETEND TO HAVE ETHICS OR ELSE THEY ARE TOTALLY DELUSIONARY!
HOW'S THAT FOR SOME BRILLIANT INSIGHT?
LILP! ANYTHING YOU SAY, CLETUS!

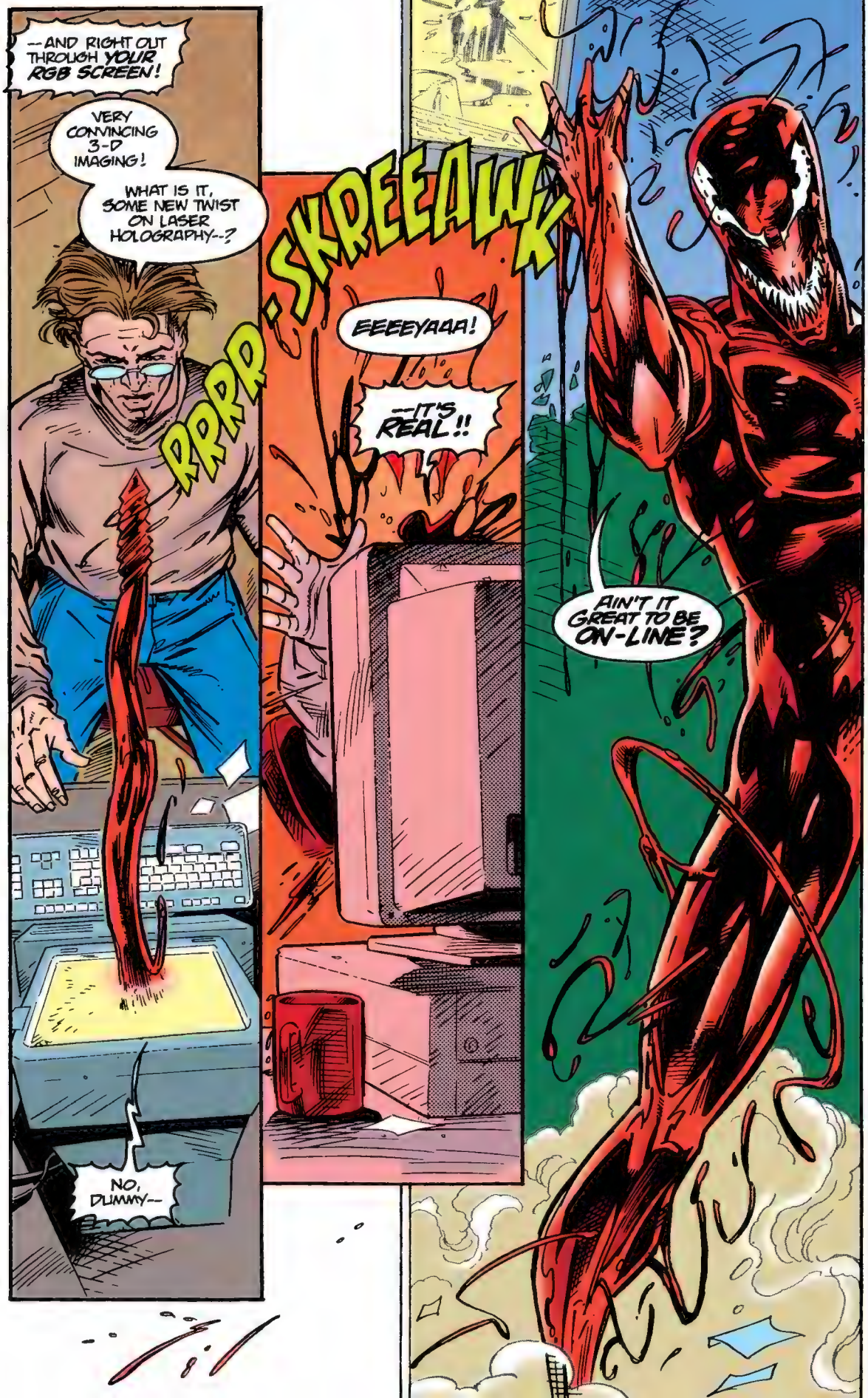
IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
CAN WE TALK?
I'M GOING BACK DOWNSTAIRS AND I'M CALLING THE POLICE--
WAIT--
--WAIT, YOU LOW-LIFE PARASITE HEROIN ADDICT!!
DON'T TOUCH ME, YOU MANIAC!! I READ ALL ABOUT YOU--YOU'RE--
--URK!
AAAAIIIIEEEE!!
NO! I DIDN'T MEAN TO--

YOU KILLED HIM!
KIRSTIN, HE WAS A JUNKIE-- HE WAS USING YOU--
HE WASN'T USING ME. HE WAS PRETENDING TO BE A JUNKIE SO HE COULD MOVE IN THE MILIEU!
HE WAS WRITING A WHOLE SERIES OF POEMS ABOUT THE DRUG CULTURE!
HE CADGED MONEY OFF ME TO PAY OFF THE PRINTERS SO HE COULD GET HIS JOURNALS OUT OF HOCK--
--AND YOU MURDERED HIM!
YOU'RE RIGHT.
WE COULD HAVE SAVED HIM, BUT WE DIDN'T EVEN TRY--
AND BECAUSE OF US, AN INNOCENT HAS DIED!


IN THE PENT-HOUSE OF THE PARVENU TOWERS...
--LOOK HERE, RHODES! JUST WHAT DO YOU MEAN, THERE ISN'T GOING TO BE A LIVE GAME HOOK-UP WITH CARNAGE AT RAVENCROFT?
YOU PROMISED!
HEY! EVERYTHING IS JAKE FROM MY END!
IT'S THOSE BOZOS AT THE LOONY BIN WHO AREN'T ANSWERING THE PHONE OR LOGGING IN ON THE COMPUTER!!
SOUNDS LIKE YOUR BETA TESTERS ARE GETTING RESTLESS, FORDHAM.
--WE INTERRUPT THE PSYCHIC PALS NETWORK FOR THIS SPECIAL NEWS REPORT BY TRISH TILBY--
I ASSURE YOU ALL THAT EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE VIDEO GAMES WILL STAND BY--
AW, HANG IT UP RHODES! WE ALL KNOW YOU'RE JUST THE BUSINESS SUIT!
SHERMAN OAKES IS THE REAL TECHNICAL GENIUS BEHIND THE COMPANY! WHY ISN'T SHERM ON-LINE??
DIDJA "RIGHT-SIZE" THE COMPANY AND GIVE HIM THE IGNOMINIOUS BOOT? HUH?! DIDJA?
COULD THERE BE A LINK BETWEEN THE BIZARRE DEATH OF COMPUTER WHIZ SHERMAN OAKES AND THE APPARENT ESCAPE OF CARNAGE FROM RAVENCROFT? HERE ARE THE STARTLING FACTS--
CATCH THIS, FORDY--
--SHERMY IS DEAD AND CARNAGE IS LOOSE!

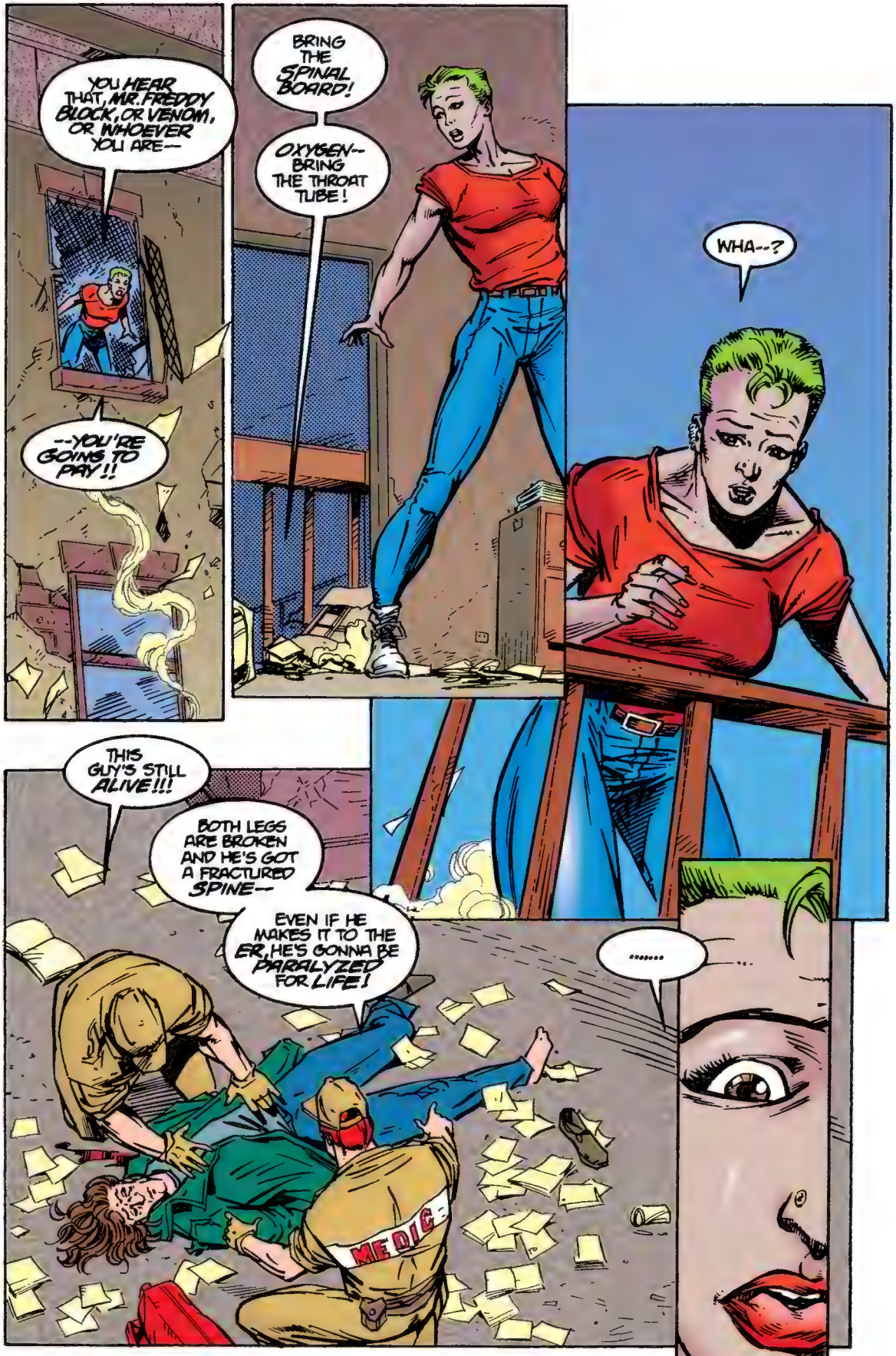
SCHRRAM!
HE'S NOT JUST LOOSE, LADY--HE'S HERE !!!
AHHH, THIS IS LIKE UNTO SOME MAXIMUM BOGOSITY, DUDES!
WOTTA PU'BLICITY STUNT!
HIRING SOME STUNT BOZO TO DRESS UP IN A FAKE CARNAGE SUIT IS A PRIMO EXAMPLE OF YOUR MARKETROIDINOSITY!
RHODES, YOU ARE LIKE MEGA-BARFULOUS!


CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS?
FOUR-EYES THINKS I'M A MATTE-SHOT!
WHO DOES THIS CREEP THINK HE'S DEALING WITH HERE??
YOU WANNA SEE SOME TOTALLY IN-YOUR-FACE, OVER-THE-TOP, ULTRA-RAGING, SUPER-GONZO FX, HUH, GEEK?
HOWSABOUT I EXTEND MY OTHER IN A MOLECULAR MONO-FILAMENT—
--RIGHT THROUGH THE RGB SCREEN THROUGH THE PROCESSOR AND THE MODEM...
...DOWN THE PHONE LINE, PAST THE SWITCHING STATIONS, UP YOUR TRUNK LINE, INTO YOUR MODEM AND PROCESSOR--

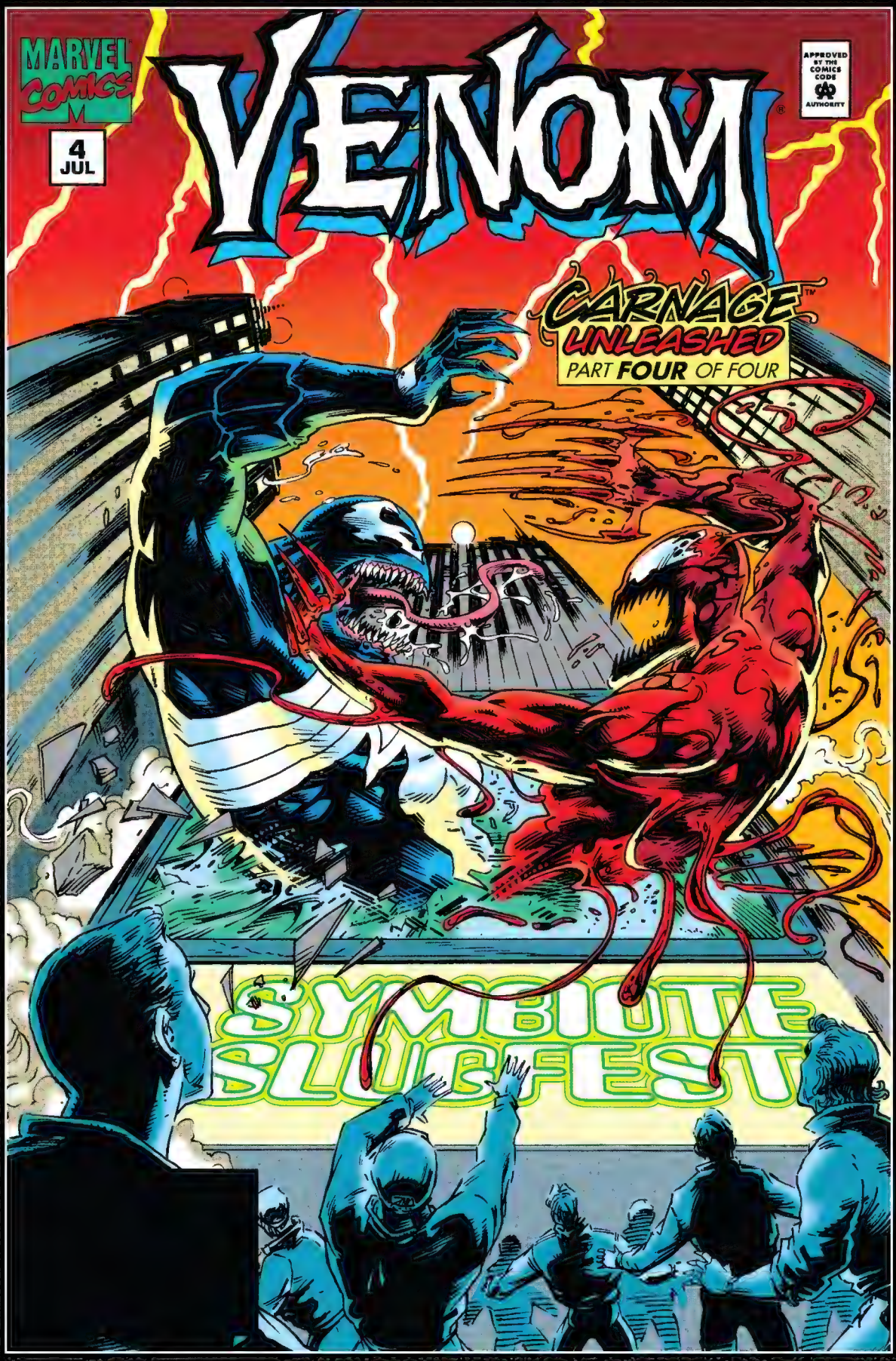

--AND RIGHT OUT THROUGH YOUR RGB SCREEN!
VERY CONVINCING 3-D IMAGING!
WHAT IS IT, SOME NEW TWIST ON LASER HOLOGRAPHY--?
RRRP-SKREEAWK
EEEEYAAA!
--IT'S REAL!!
AIN'T IT GREAT TO BE ON-LINE?
NO, DUMMY--

HAR! I'VE SEEN SOME CHEESY SPECIAL EFFECTS IN MY TIME, BUT THAT ONE TAKES THE CAKE!
THAT WAS DOWN THERE WITH PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE!
WHAT IS THAT ON THE WALL, PIZZA SAUCE?
UH, YOU PEOPLE DON'T SEEM TO KNOW WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH HERE--THIS IS A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS SITUATION --
AIN'T NOTHIN' POTENTIAL ABOUT IT, FORDO--
--IT'S WHAT YA MIGHT CALL...
SCHLOOK!
...HAPPENIN'!!
GACK!!
LIKK!
GLICK!
COMPUTER GEEKS REALLY MAKE MY TEETH HURT--
SAY, EXACTLY HOW MANY OTHER GEEKS IS THIS THING HOOKED UP TO, ANYWAY?? HUNDREDS?
THOUSANDS? HUH? HUH?

IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
...THE CALL WAS FOR A JUMPER, BUT IT ALWAYS PAYS TO BE CAREFUL IN CASE HE WAS A PUSHEE--
YEAH, AND THE PUSHER MIGHT STILL BE AROUND!
THE GUY DID FIVE FLOORS ON HIS FACE. WE'RE IN NO HURRY!
HEY-- MMFHH--
IS THAT SOMEBODY UP THERE?
THIS IS ADAM 6-3, REQUESTING A BACK-UP--
KEEP IT QUIET, KIRSTIN! YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE THAT I DIDN'T FULLY INTEND FOR HIM TO DIE! I THOUGHT--
ATTENTION ALL UNITS! CARNAGE HAS BEEN SPOTTED AT THE PARVENU TOWERS! ALL UNITS PROCEED THERE AT ONCE!
LET'S GO!
HE'S HERE IN TOWN!!
HE'S MINE!!!
YOU MURDERER!!
I'M GOING TO DEVOTE MY WHOLE LIFE TO SEEING THAT YOU PAY!!


YOU HEAR THAT, MR. FREDDY BLOCK, OR VENOM, OR WHOEVER YOU ARE--
--YOU'RE GOING TO PAY!!
BRING THE SPINAL BOARD!
OXYGEN-- BRING THE THROAT TUBE!
WHA--?
THIS GUY'S STILL ALIVE!!!
BOTH LEGS ARE BROKEN AND HE'S GOT A FRACTURED SPINE--
EVEN IF HE MAKES IT TO THE ER, HE'S GONNA BE PARALYZED FOR LIFE!
.....
MEDIC

NOTHING IS GOING RIGHT WITH US !!
ARRRRGH! WE JUST DON'T DESERVE TO HAVE SO MUCH PSYCHIC PAIN !!
BUT WE CAN FIX IT RIGHT UP, CAN'T WE ??
WE WILL FIX IT RIGHT UP WITH SOME FEEL-GOOD ROMPING AND STOMPING ON OUR OLD PAL CARNAGE !!!
NEXT: THE GUT-WRENCHING CONCLUSION!


MARVEL COMICS
4
JUL
VENOM
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
CARNAGE UNLEASHED
PART FOUR OF FOUR
SYMBIOTE SLUGFEST

HE'S UP THERE.
HE'S HOLED UP IN THE PENTHOUSE OF COMPUTER GAME MAGNATE FORDHAM RHODES WITH A BUNCH OF HOSTAGES.
HE'S RIGHT UP THERE, AND WE HATE HIM AS MUCH OR MORE THAN WE HATE SPIDER-MAN, AND LET US TELL YOU, THAT'S SAYING A LOT!
WE WANT TO SINK OUR FINGERS INTO HIS HEAD ABOVE HIS HAIRLINE...
...AND RIP HIS FACE DOWN OVER HIS CHIN!!!

STAN LEE PRESENTS: VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED, PART 4

CAN'T GET NO RELIEF!!

WE'RE COMING FOR YOU, CARNAGE!!! WE'RE--

WE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN!

THAT WAS AN ALL UNIT CALL WE OVERHEARD ON THE COP'S RADIO DOWN IN THE EAST VILLAGE*--

--EVERY COP IN TOWN IS UP HERE TO GET A PIECE OF CARNAGE!!

TAKE HIM DOWN!!

BLOW HIS KIDNEYS BACK TO HOBOKEN!!

THAT'S NOT CARNAGE! THAT'S THE OTHER WACKO-- VENOM!!

BLAM BLAM

RATATATATAT

ONE SYMBIOTE PSYCHO-KILLER IS AS GOOD AS THE NEXT, RIGHT? JUST SHUT UP AND WASTE HIM!

SOMEBODY RADIO THAT SWAT TEAM ON THE ROOF TO BUSHWHACK HIM!

* LAST ISSUE! --ERIC

SCRIPT: LARRY HAMA
PENCILS: ANDREW WILDMAN
INKS: JOE RUBINSTEIN
COLORING: TOM SMITH
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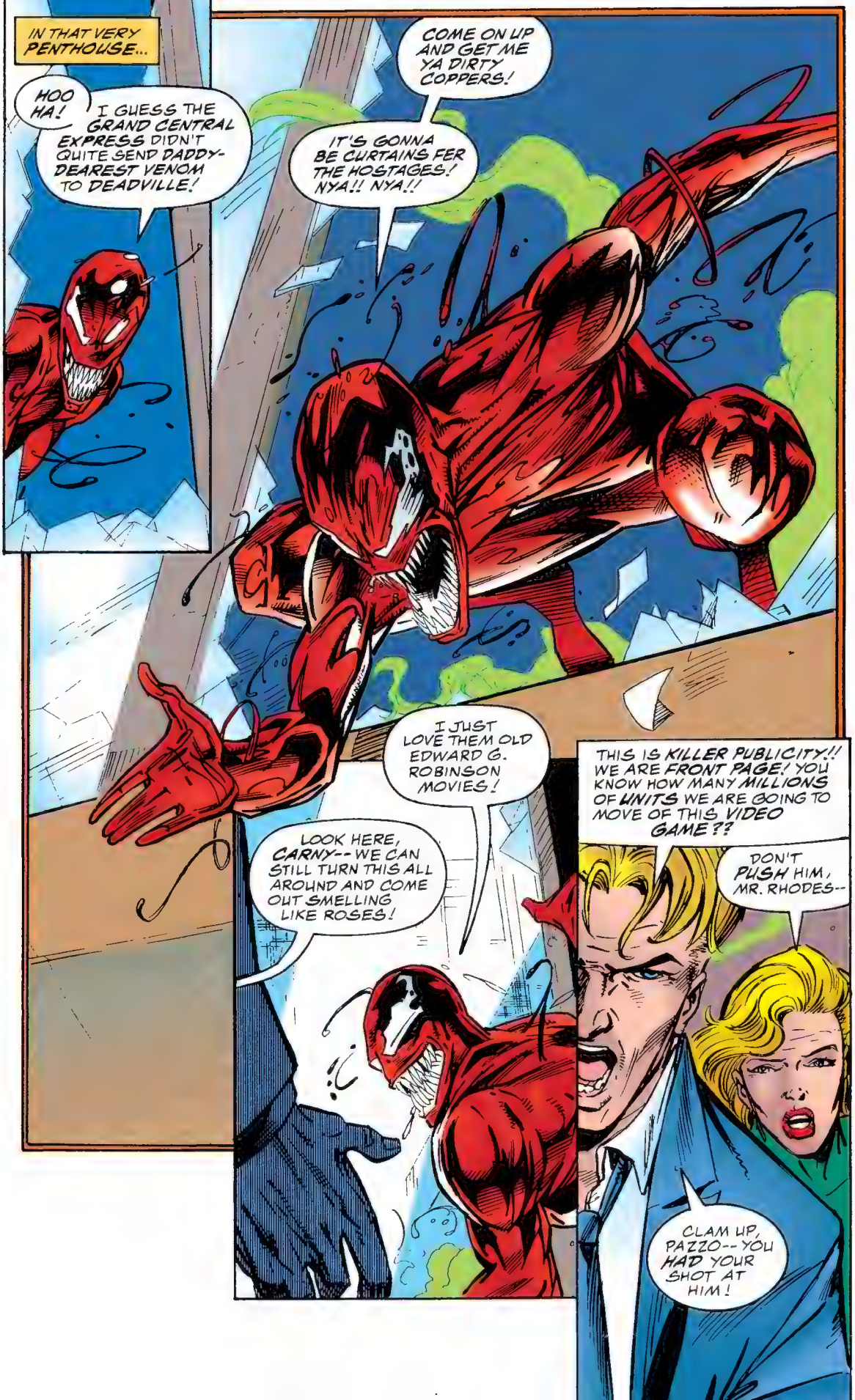
EDITOR: ERIC FEIN
GROUP EDITOR: DANNY FINGEROTH
EDITOR IN CHIEF: BOB BUDIANSKY

THEY THREW A SOLID RING OF BLUE AROUND THE PARVENU TOWERS!
NO WAY TO GET THROUGH THAT WITHOUT A TANK!
RATATATATAT
NAIL HIM IN A CROSS-FIRE!
BUT WE INTEND TO GET THROUGH THEM SOMEHOW. AND WHEN WE DO...
...WE'RE GOING TO SKEWER CARNAGE ON A SPIT AND CHAR-BROIL HIM UNTIL HE'S WELL DONE!
WE'VE DRIVEN VENOM OFF AND HE SEEMS TO BE HEADING IN THE DIRECTION OF TIMES SQUARE!
NOW, IF WE CAN ONLY WINKLE CARNAGE OUT OF FORDHAM RHODES' PENTHOUSE...
THAT SHOULD PUSH HIS HEAT-WEAKNESSES INTO OVERDRIVE!
MAKE WAY, CHUMPS!


IN THAT VERY PENTHOUSE...
HOO HA! I GUESS THE GRAND CENTRAL EXPRESS DIDN'T QUITE SEND DADDY-DEAREST VENOM TO DEADVILLE!
COME ON UP AND GET ME YA DIRTY COPPERS!
IT'S GONNA BE CURTAINS FER THE HOSTAGES! NYA!! NYA!!
I JUST LOVE THEM OLD EDWARD G. ROBINSON MOVIES!
LOOK HERE, CARNY-- WE CAN STILL TURN THIS ALL AROUND AND COME OUT SMELLING LIKE ROSES!
THIS IS KILLER PUBLICITY!! WE ARE FRONT PAGE! YOU KNOW HOW MANY MILLIONS OF UNITS WE ARE GOING TO MOVE OF THIS VIDEO GAME??
DON'T PUSH HIM, MR. RHODES--
CLAM UP, PAZZO-- YOU HAD YOUR SHOT AT HIM!

MILLIONS, HUH?
AND WHAT WAS MY CUT GONNA BE?!
I'LL TELL YA--
--EL ZIPPO NADA!!!
CARNAGE UNLEASHED!
NET CONNECTION ON TIMES SQUARE SCREEN
RAVENCROFT WAS GONNA GET A FEW NEW PARCHEESI BOARDS AND MAYBE A POTHOLDER LOOM OR TWO, BUT CLETUS? CLETUS COMES UP GOOSE EGGS!!!
NOT IF WE REALLY PLAY IT SMART! WE COULD SET UP AN ACCOUNT FOR YOU IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS, WE COULD--
LIVE NE ON TIMES SQUARE SCREEN
YOU SAID MILLIONS?
HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE CONNECTED TO THE NET?
CAN I ACCESS THEM ALL THROUGH YOUR RIG?? HAH???
NO! YOU CAN'T BE THINKING--
HEY-- NO SUCH THING AS BAD PUBLICITY!

WE'RE NOT GOING TO RIP HIS FACE DOWN OVER HIS CHIN--
--WE'RE GOING TO RIP IT DOWN OVER HIS KNEES!! WE'RE GOING TO--
WHU--???
RNAGE / EASHED!
ON-LINE???
THEY HAD A HOOKUP SET TO DISPLAY A LIVE GAME ON THIS ELECTRONIC BILLBOARD???
VE ON-LINE HOOK-UP RIGHT HERE!
THAT MEANS THEY HAVE A MODEM CONNECTION TO RAVENCROFT AND MAYBE EVEN TO FORDHAM RHODES!
ONE WAY TO FIND OUT--
--USE MY OTHER'S MORPHING ABILITY--!
I GOT A RUSH DELIVERY FOR THE GUYS WHO CONTROL THE BILLBOARD. TENTH FLOOR, RIGHT?
NO, TOP FLOOR-- ROOM 30-38!

IN 30-38...
GET IT THROUGH YOUR TECHNOID NOODLE, SOLSKI-- THERE ISN'T GOING TO BE ANY LIVE HOOKUP!
THE STAR HAS ABSCONDED!! SO EIGHTY-SIX ALL THIS PROMO STUFF YOU'RE RUNNING, PRONTO!!
WHO SAYS THE HOOKUP IS OFF?
I'VE GOT FORDHAM RHODES ON THE LINE HERE AND HE SAYS THE CARNAGE MAN IS GOING ON LINE!
WE GOT A SHOW TO PUT ON, BABE!!
TELL HIM WE'RE OPENING THE GAME ON THE WHOLE NET! TELL HIM IT'S FREE! LET'S PACK THE HOUSE, FORDY!! I'M GONNA EXTERMINATE THE ETHERNET!!!
YOU THE FOLKS WHO CONTROL THE BILL-BOARD?
JUST LEAVE IT AND WE'LL SIGN FOR IT LATER--
WE ARE TALKING VENOM, HERE!
THERE'S A HUMUNGO CROWD FORMING OUT THERE ALREADY, MR. RHODES! AS VARIETY MIGHT SAY, WE ARE TALKING "CARNAGE VID GAME BOFFO." HERE!

IS THIS COMPUTER HOOKED UP WITH THE ONE WHERE CARNAGE IS??
DON'T JUST STAND THERE WITH YOUR JAWS FLAPPING! ANSWER US!!!
HIS MODEM IS TALKING TO MY MODEM EVEN AS WE SPEAK! HEAR THOSE SQUAWKS AND BEEPS??
WE ARE CONNECTED!!
IF A MENTAL DEFICIENT LIKE CARNAGE CAN FIGURE OUT HOW TO SEND HIS OTHER THROUGH THE NET, WE CERTAINLY CAN!!
THIS IS GONNA BE A BIG OVERLOAD ON THE SYSTEM!
GOOD THING I INSTALLED THAT NEW HEAT SINK AND FAN OR ELSE MY CPU WOULD GO INTO MELTDOWN!!

COME ON IN AND PLAY-- O, MY PRODIGAL! THE ETHERNET IS FINE!
HOW DID HE GET ON THERE???
PROBABLY THE SAME WAY YOU DID!
BY ENTERING THE SYSTEM ON A MOLECULAR LEVEL!
GREAT! TIME TO BREAK OUT THE FIVE STAR COGNAC AND LIGHT UP A COFFIN NAIL!
I'M COMING IN TO GET MEDIEVAL ON YA, POPS--!
WHAT THE HECK IS PRODDY GULL ANYWAY?
THEY'RE GOING TO FIGHT ON THE ETHERNET! IS THERE ANY WAY TO GET THIS ON LINE?
YOU KNOW I HAVE A WHOLE PARTNERSHIP THAT'S VACANT!!
YOU KNOW, ALANA-- THAT COGNAC ISN'T A BAD IDEA! IS THAT A REAL DUNHILL LIGHTER?

THIS IS AMAZING! I CAN ACTUALLY "SEE" THROUGH MY OTHER AS IT NAVIGATES THE CIRCUITS!
WHERE ARE YOU, CARNAGE--?
YOU'RE NOT TURNING CHICKEN ON ME, ARE YOU?
NO WAY, VENOM--
--LET'S THROW DOWN!
YOW! THESE GUYS ARE CONNECTED ON THE ACTUAL GAME PROGRAM!
I CAN EMULATE THIS STUFF INTO GAME GRAPHICS AND SEND IT OUT ON THE NET!
DO IT, FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY, DO IT!!!

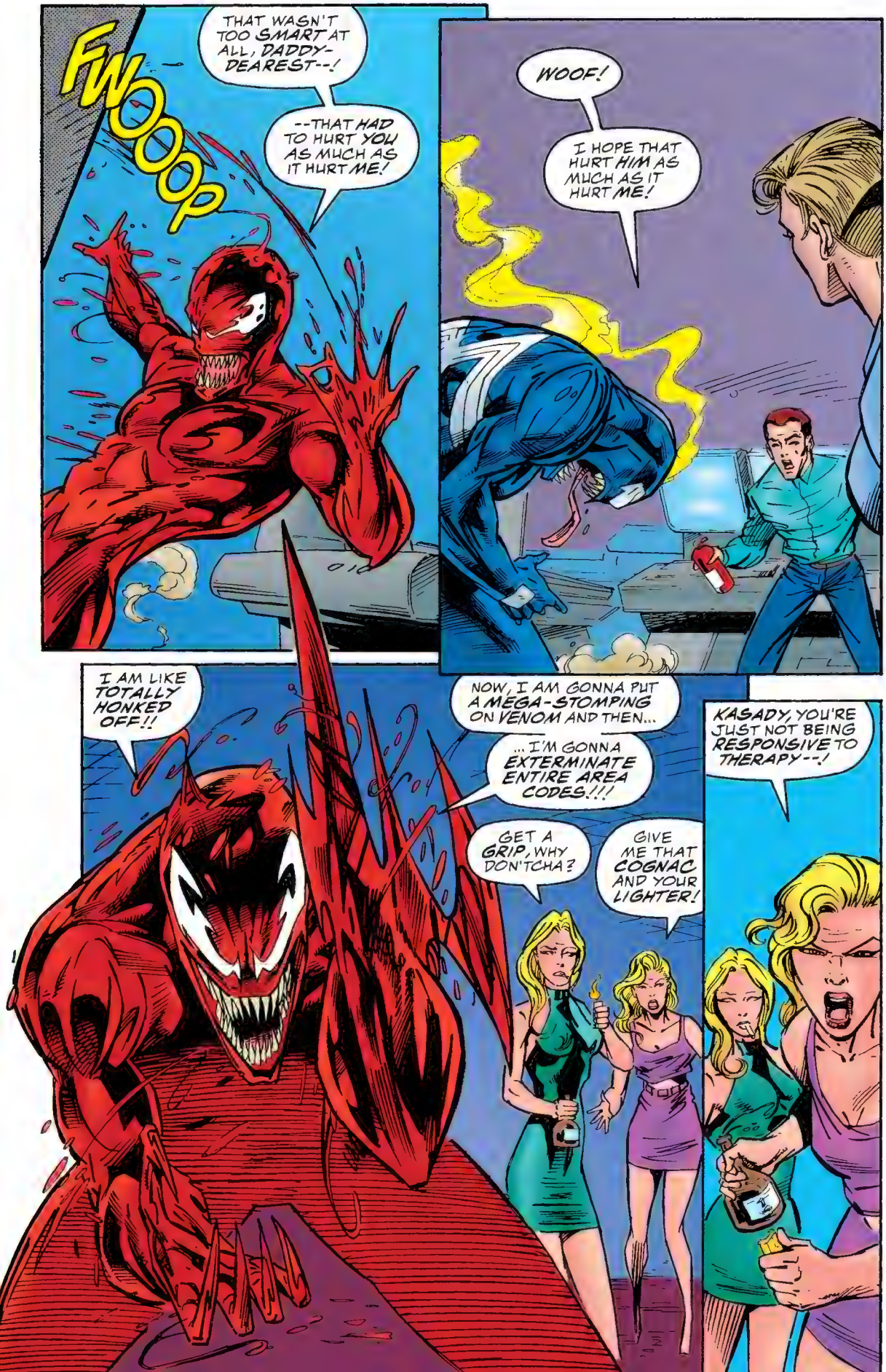
UNNGGGHHH!
LET'S CUT THE IDLE CHIT-CHAT AND GO RIGHT FOR THE THROAT, SHALL WE?
HOLY--
BUT I'M NOT WORRIED!!
GOOD MOVE, DAD-OF-MINE!!
GAAA!
NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT, WHILE HE'S DISTRACTED--
YOU CAN'T DO THIS!!
YOU ARE THROWING A MONKEY WRENCH INTO A DEAL THAT'S WORTH FORT KNOX!!

IT'S A WHOLE DIFFERENT WORLD IN HERE, DADDY-CAKES--!
IT'S ELECTRIC CANDY-LAND HOO-HA-VILLE!
YEAH? IT'S MORE LIKE DEAD END CITY FOR YOU!!
GET READY TO START DRAWING UP A CONTRACT AND SIGN A CHECK, MR. RHODES!!
I'M ABOUT TO PUT THESE BAD BOYS ON THE BIG SCREEN!!!
YOU KNOW, FORDY-- I NEVER THOUGHT YOU WERE MUCH OF A BOY FRIEND...
...AND NOW I KNOW YOU DON'T RATE TOO HIGH AS A HUMAN, EITHER!
BONK

YOU JUST DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?
YOU ARE WASHED-UP, OLD-TIMER!!
WHY DON'T YOU ROLL OVER AND DIE AND LET THE NEW GENERATION TAKE OVER!!
I'M NOT READY TO GIVE IN TO STUPIDITY AND UGLINESS JUST YET!!
HEY--CHECK THIS OUT!!!

STUPID IS AS STUPID DOES, VENOM!!
I CAN STOMP YOUR REAL BUTT AND YOUR CYBER BUTT!
CARNAGE HAS THE UPPER HAND IN HERE! HE'S HAD MORE EXPERIENCE NAVIGATING CYBER-SPACE--
--BUT I KNOW A WAY TO FRY HIS FRIJOLES!
THIS MUST BE THE HEAT SINK THAT THE BILLBOARD TECHNOID WAS TALKING ABOUT--
--ALL I HAVE TO DO, IS...

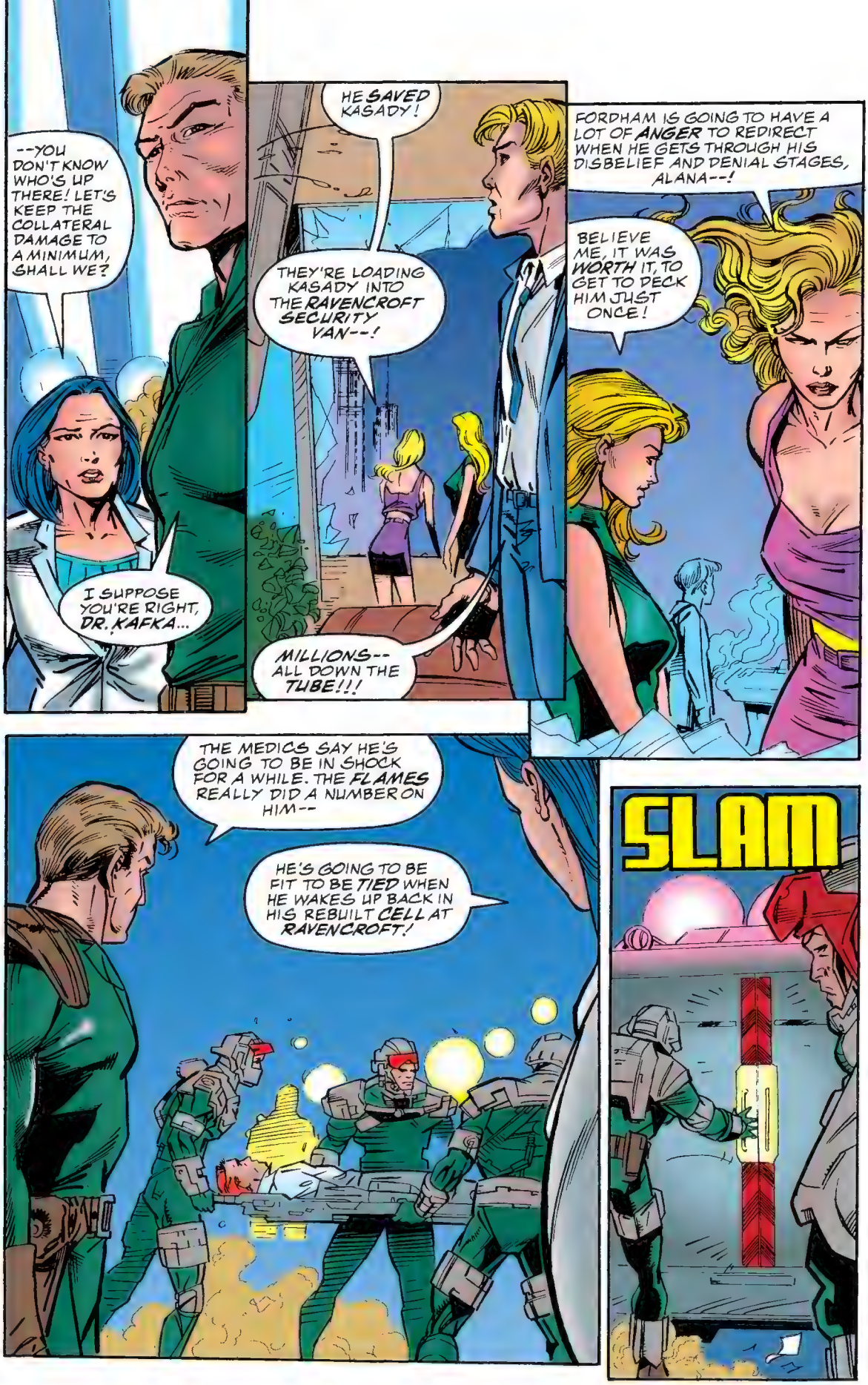
...TOTAL IT!!
I'M KILLING THE A.C., JUNIOR!!
HUH?
WHOA!!
MAJOR EQUIPMENT INCINERATION HERE!!
EEEEYAAAAA!
HOT ENOUGH FOR YOU??
FA-SHOOM!
AWESOME FX!
NOT TOO SHABBY AT ALL!

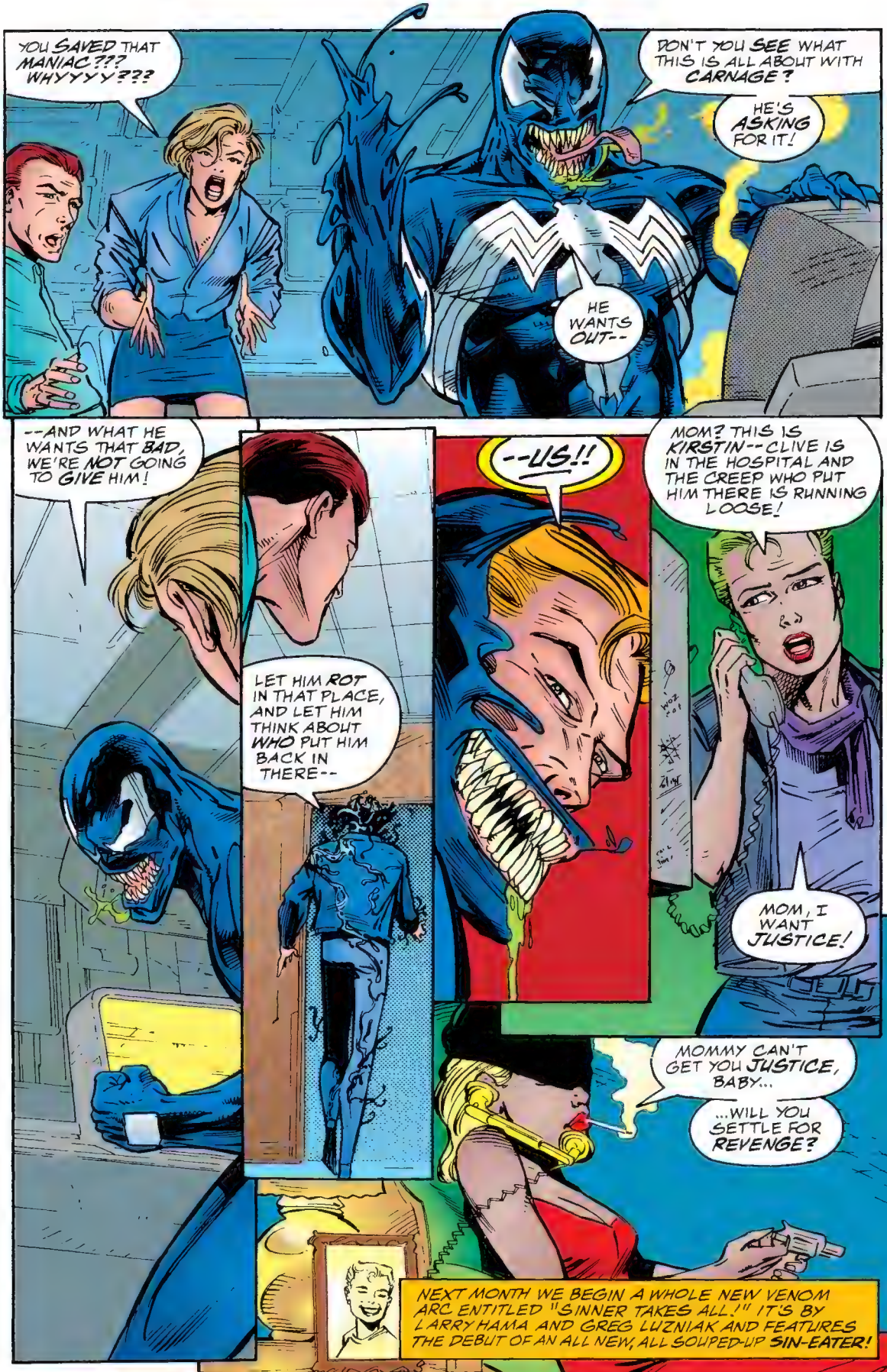

FWOOOP
THAT WASN'T TOO SMART AT ALL, DADDY-DEAREST--!
--THAT HAD TO HURT YOU AS MUCH AS IT HURT ME!
WOOF!
I HOPE THAT HURT HIM AS MUCH AS IT HURT ME!
I AM LIKE TOTALLY HONKED OFF!!
NOW, I AM GONNA PUT A MEGA-STOMPING ON VENOM AND THEN...
...I'M GONNA EXTERMINATE ENTIRE AREA CODES!!!
GET A GRIP, WHY DON'TCHA?
GIVE ME THAT COGNAC AND YOUR LIGHTER!
KASADY, YOU'RE JUST NOT BEING RESPONSIVE TO THERAPY--!

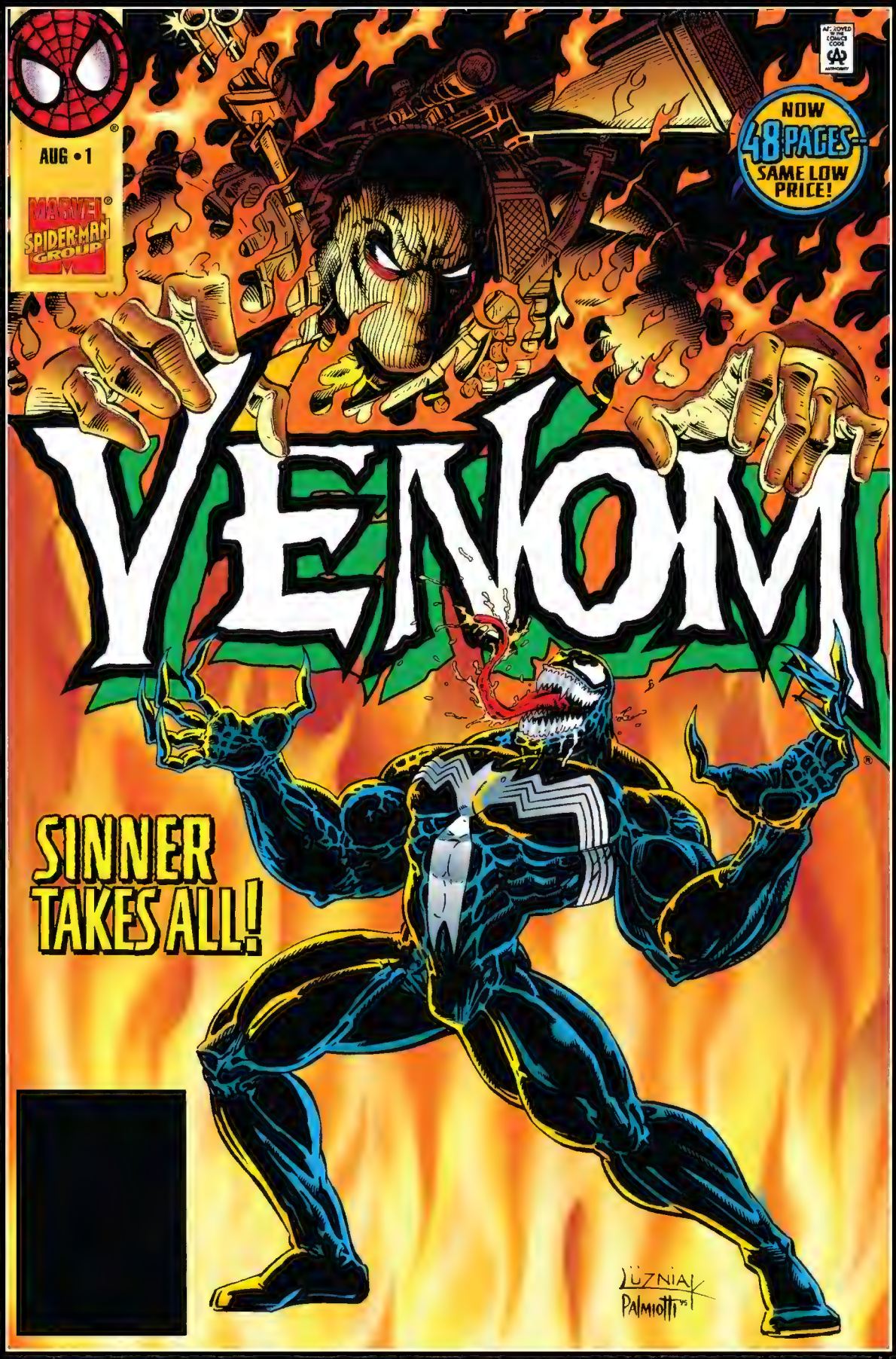
AND ALTHOUGH I MAY HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO YOU AS A PATIENT...
SPLOOSH
...THE REST OF HUMANITY TAKES PRECEDENCE!!
FLIK
FOOMP
AARRRGH!
GAAAAA!! PUT IT OUT! PUT IT OUT!
PUT IT--
KEE-RRASH!

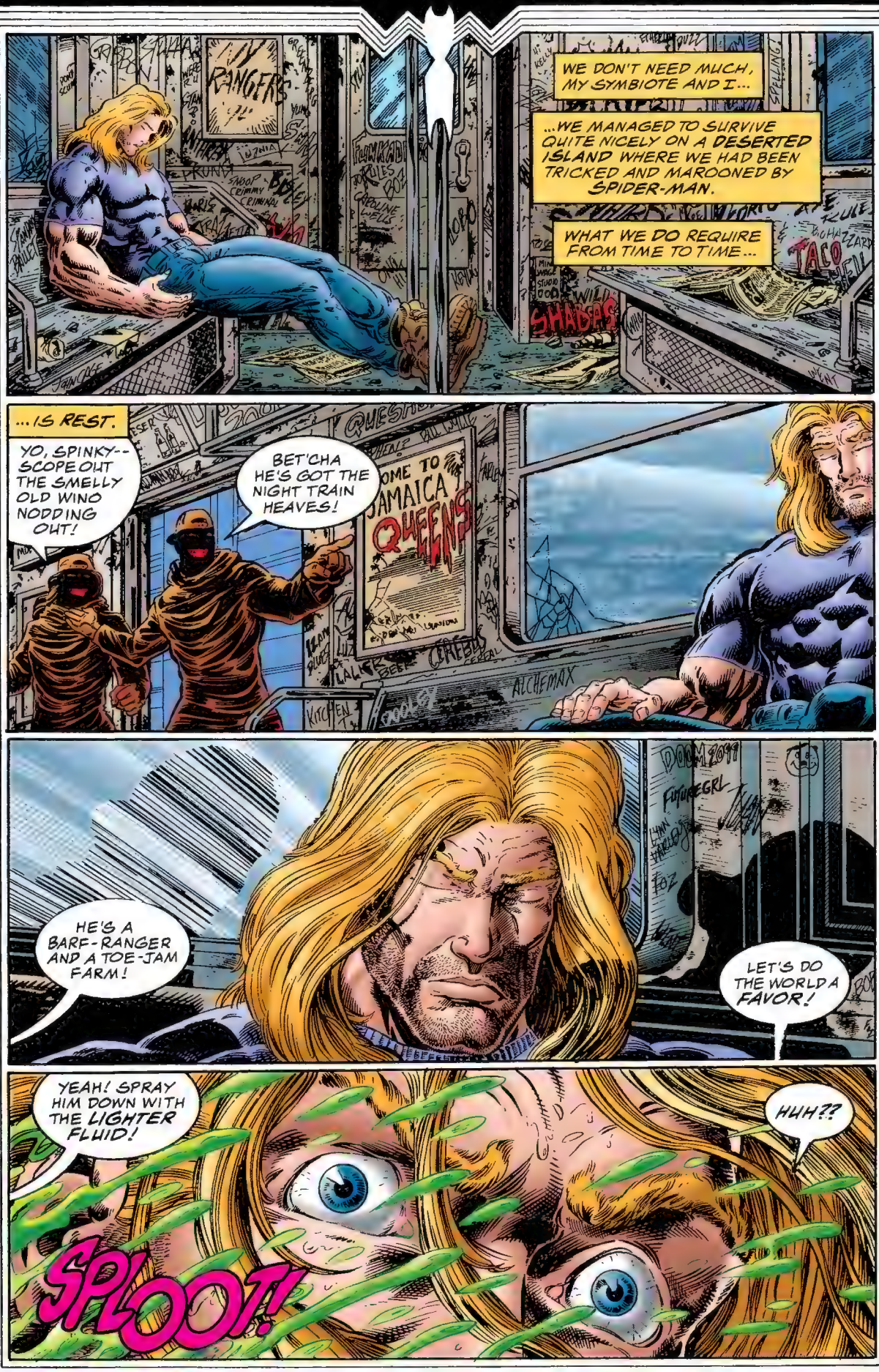
THAT'S TOO EASY!
HE HAS TO SUFFER A LOT MORE THAN THAT!!!
HE'S TAKING THE FLAMING SIDEWALK PLUNGE! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE, YOU EVIL WITCH!!
ARE YOU EVER A SICK PUPPY!
WHAAAAA?
OOOOOOH!!

WHERE DID HE GO??
OUT THE WINDOW--!
THIS IS GOING TO BE CLOSE--
--VERY CLOSE!!
FWOMP!
THAT TENDRIL--!!
THWIPP!
WHAT THE--
--THAT'S VENOM!!
OPEN FIRE ON IT!! DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!!
LET HIM GO, JAMESON--


--YOU DON'T KNOW WHO'S UP THERE! LET'S KEEP THE COLLATERAL DAMAGE TO A MINIMUM, SHALL WE?
I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT, DR. KAFKA...
HE SAVED KASADY!
THEY'RE LOADING KASADY INTO THE RAVENCROFT SECURITY VAN--!
MILLIONS-- ALL DOWN THE TUBE!!!
FORDHAM IS GOING TO HAVE A LOT OF ANGER TO REDIRECT WHEN HE GETS THROUGH HIS DISBELIEF AND DENIAL STAGES, ALANA--!
BELIEVE ME, IT WAS WORTH IT, TO GET TO DECK HIM JUST ONCE!
THE MEDICS SAY HE'S GOING TO BE IN SHOCK FOR A WHILE. THE FLAMES REALLY DID A NUMBER ON HIM--
HE'S GOING TO BE FIT TO BE TIED WHEN HE WAKES UP BACK IN HIS REBUILT CELL AT RAVENCROFT!
SLAM


YOU SAVED THAT MANIAC??? WHYYYY???
DON'T YOU SEE WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT WITH CARNAGE?
HE'S ASKING FOR IT!
HE WANTS OUT--
--AND WHAT HE WANTS THAT BAD, WE'RE NOT GOING TO GIVE HIM!
LET HIM ROT IN THAT PLACE, AND LET HIM THINK ABOUT WHO PUT HIM BACK IN THERE--
--US!!
MOM? THIS IS KIRSTIN--CLIVE IS IN THE HOSPITAL AND THE CREEP WHO PUT HIM THERE IS RUNNING LOOSE!
MOM, I WANT JUSTICE!
MOMMY CAN'T GET YOU JUSTICE, BABY...
...WILL YOU SETTLE FOR REVENGE?
NEXT MONTH WE BEGIN A WHOLE NEW VENOM ARC ENTITLED "SINNER TAKES ALL!" IT'S BY LARRY HAMA AND GREG LUZNIAK AND FEATURES THE DEBUT OF AN ALL NEW, ALL SOUPED-UP SIN-EATER!


AUG • 1
MARVEL SPIDER-MAN GROUP
NOW 48 PAGES— SAME LOW PRICE!
VENOM
SINNER TAKES ALL!
LUZNIAK
PALMIOTTI


WE DON'T NEED MUCH, MY SYMBIOTE AND I...
...WE MANAGED TO SURVIVE QUITE NICELY ON A DESERTED ISLAND WHERE WE HAD BEEN TRICKED AND MAROONED BY SPIDER-MAN.
WHAT WE DO REQUIRE FROM TIME TO TIME...
...IS REST.
YO, SPINKY-- SCOPE OUT THE SMELLY OLD WINO NODDING OUT!
BET'CHA HE'S GOT THE NIGHT TRAIN HEAVES!
HE'S A BARF-RANGER AND A TOE-JAM FARM!
LET'S DO THE WORLD A FAVOR!
YEAH! SPRAY HIM DOWN WITH THE LIGHTER FLUID!
HUH??
SPLOOT!

YEEEAARRRGHH!!

FOOOMP!

WOOF! WE HAVE A PRIMO IGNITION HERE!

WE SHOULDA BROUGHT SNOOR FIXINS!

SCRIPT: LARRY HAMA
PENCILS: GREG LUZNIAK
INKS: SCOTT KOBLISH
COLORING: TOM SMITH
LETTERING: KEN LOPEZ
EDITOR: TOM BREVOORT
GROUP EDITOR: DANNY FINGEROTH
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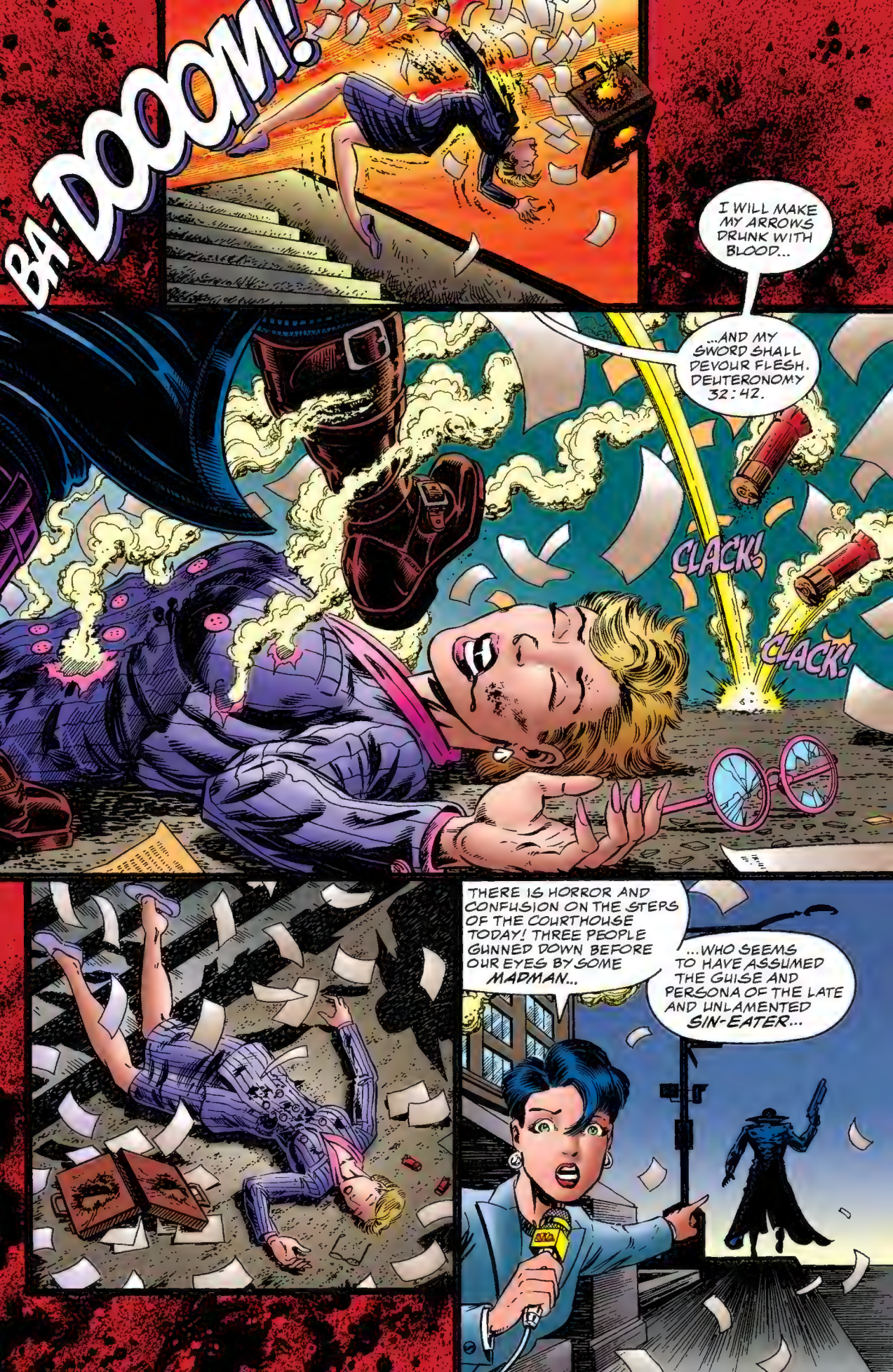
HOOOOO-- THAT SMARTS!!
LUCKILY, MY OTHER MANAGED TO SMOTHER THE FLAMES BEFORE WE WERE TOO BADLY BURNED!
IT'S THAT PSYCHO WITH THE ALIEN COSTUME...
...THE ONE WHO'S ALWAYS FIGHTING SPIDER-MAN--
--VENOM!!
PSYCHO???
YOU MISERABLE STREET VERMIN HAVE THE UTTER GALL TO CALL US A PSYCHO????
YOU, WHO WEREN'T EVEN OUT TO ROB--
--BUT TO TORTURE AND MAIM??
GUH GUH GUH GUH!!!

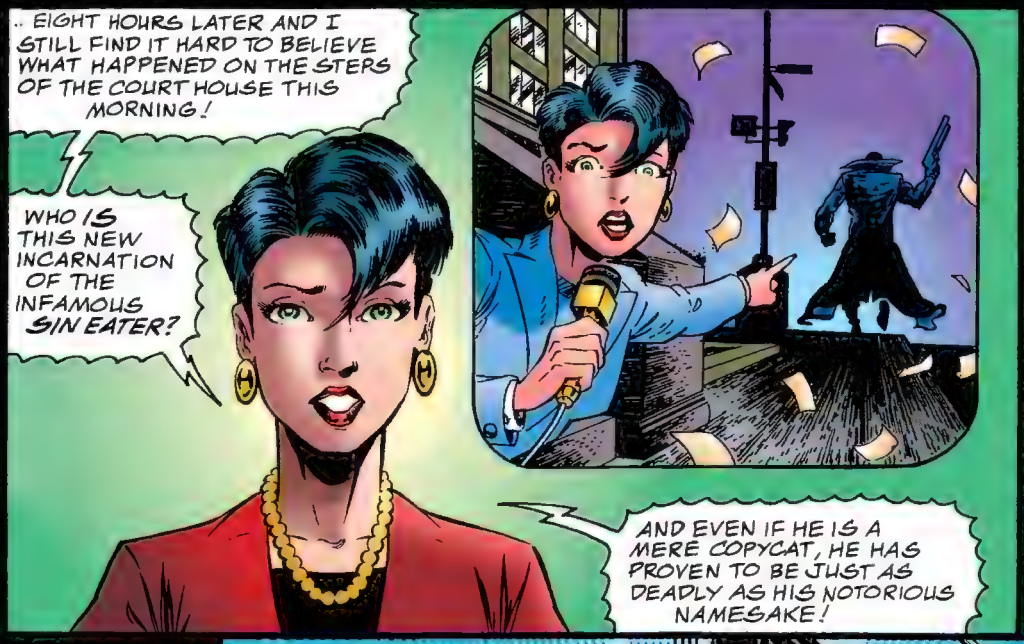
KA-CHUNGG
YOU STREET SLIME ARE THE BARBARIANS AT THE GATE!
HONEST CITIZENS ARE SUBJECTED TO YOUR HEINOUS PREDATIONS BECAUSE THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IS FAR TOO LAX!
WE, ON THE OTHER HAND, METE OUT PUNISHMENT LIMITED ONLY BY THE BOUNDARIES OF A LURID AND VIVID IMAGINATION!!
NAAARRGH!!
SNAP!
POP!
CRACKLE!

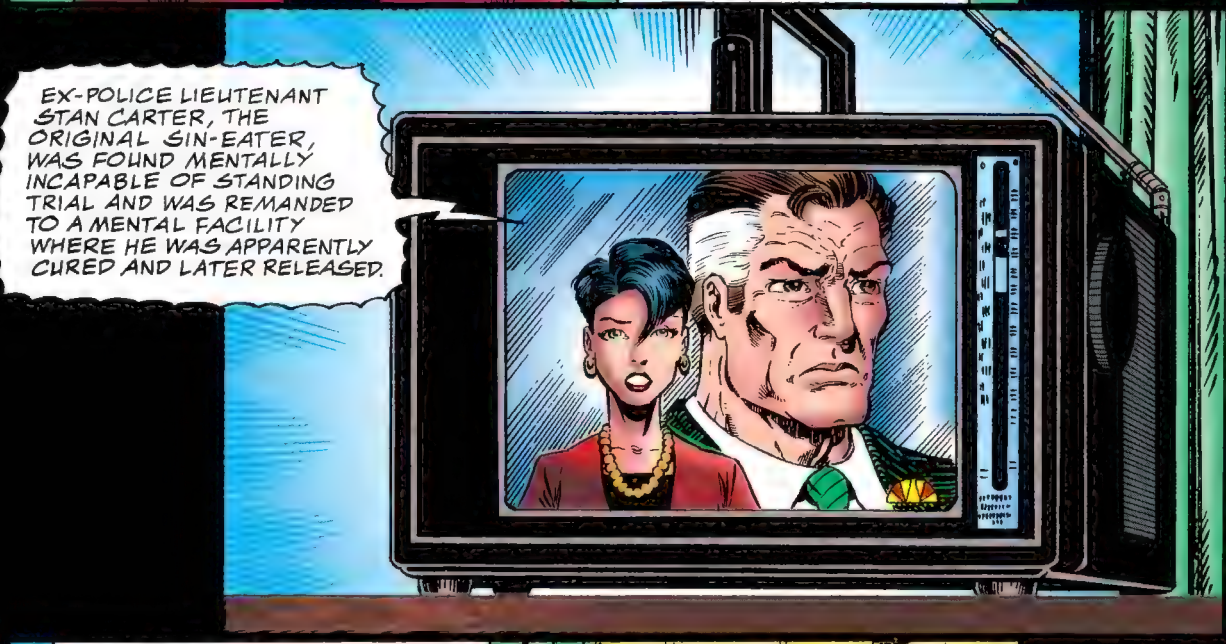
NEXT MORNING...
THIS IS TRISH TILBY REPORTING LIVE FROM THE STEPS OF THE FEDERAL COURTHOUSE IN LOWER MANHATTAN...
...WHERE FORDHAM RHODES, CEO OF THE EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE VIDEO GAME COMPANY, IS ANSWERING CHARGES OF GROSS NEGLIGENCE IN THE RECENT CARNAGE UNLEASHED INCIDENT...
MR. RHODES, IS IT TRUE THAT YOU ARE DENYING ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEATHS OF THE BETA-TESTERS WHO WERE HOOKED UP TO YOUR ON-LINE VIDEO GAME?
I'M F. BENNET FIELD, MR. RHODES' ATTORNEY.
MY CLIENT WAS THE UNWITTING DUPE OF THE INSIDIOUS DIRECTOR OF RAVENCROFT, DR. KAFKA!
HE WAS UTTERLY BLAMELESS, AND WE WILL PROVE THIS BEYOND A SHADOW OF A DOUBT!
I'LL BET.
ARE YOU AWARE THAT YOUR NEW LEGAL ASSISTANT, ANN WEYING, IS THE FORMER WIFE OF EDDIE BROCK, AKA VENOM?
IS SHE SERVING AS SOME SORT OF EXPERT ON SYMBIOTE BEHAVIOR?
CHANNEL 6
THIS IS FALLACIOUS AND UNTRUE, ISN'T IT, ANN?
I'M AFRAID NOT, MR. FIELD.

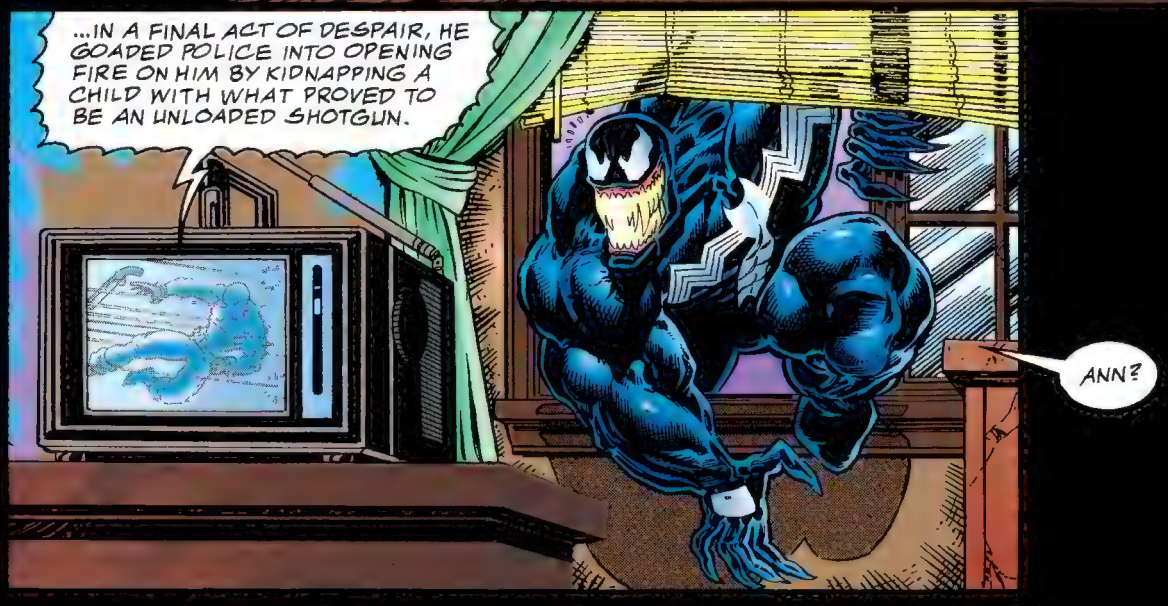
IF THE RIGHTEOUS ARE REPAID ON EARTH..
...HOW MUCH MORE THE WICKED AND THE SINNER! PROVERBS 11:31
HE'S GOT A GUN!!
RETRIBUTION TIME, MR. RHODES, WORSHIPPER OF MAMMON, COVETER OF WORDLY GOODS AND MURDERER!!
IT'S THE SIN-EATER!!
BUT HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD!
DO SOMETHING, FIELD! SLAP AN INJUNCTION ON HIM, OR SOMETHING!!
GET AWAY FROM ME, RHODES--WRITS AREN'T BULLET-PROOF, YOU KNOW!
NOOOO!
BA-BOOOM!

CLACK
YOU JUST COMMITTED A CLASS A FELONY, YOUNG MAN--
--YOU'RE GOING TO NEED LEGAL REPRESENTATION!
PHARISEES, SCRIBES AND LAWMAKERS!
THE BOOK CALLS YOU THE "EVIL BROOD"!
THE VULTURES WHO FEED ON THE CARRION LEFT BY THE PREDATORS ARE EQUALLY EVIL...!
F. BENNETT FIELD
Attorney-at-Law
"I'M READY TO BELIEVE YOU"
YOU CAN'T SHOOT ME, I'M--
BA-DOOOM!
...ALL THE VULTURES!
OH MY LORD...
...PLEASE DON'T DO THIS-- PLEASE--

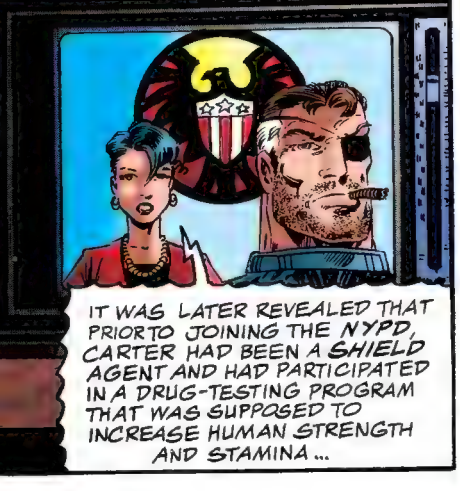

BA-DOOM!
I WILL MAKE MY ARROWS DRUNK WITH BLOOD...
...AND MY SWORD SHALL DEVOUR FLESH. DEUTERONOMY 32:42.
CLACK!
CLACK!
THERE IS HORROR AND CONFUSION ON THE STEPS OF THE COURTHOUSE TODAY! THREE PEOPLE GUNNED DOWN BEFORE OUR EYES BY SOME MADMAN...
...WHO SEEMS TO HAVE ASSUMED THE GUISE AND PERSONA OF THE LATE AND UNLAMENTED SIN-EATER...

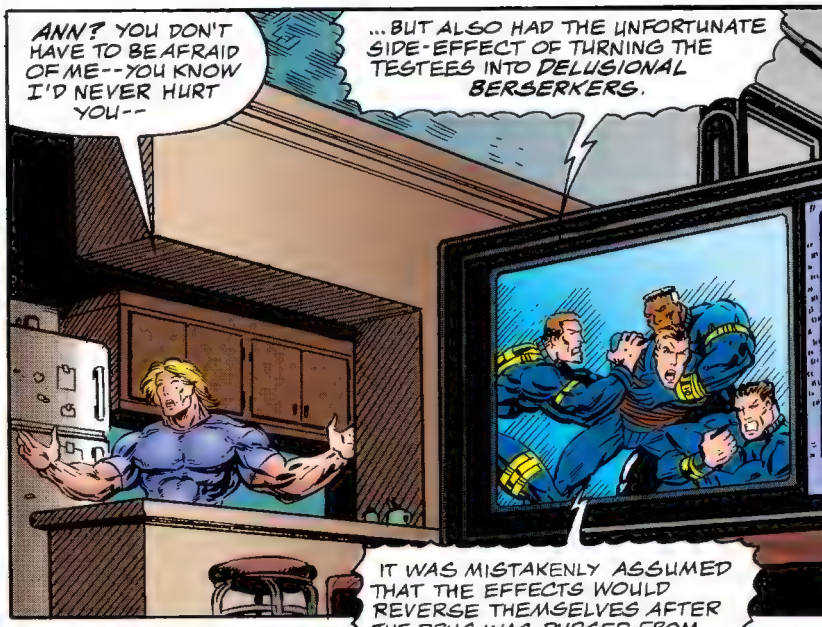

.. EIGHT HOURS LATER AND I STILL FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE WHAT HAPPENED ON THE STERS OF THE COURT HOUSE THIS MORNING!
WHO IS THIS NEW INCARNATION OF THE INFAMOUS SIN EATER?
AND EVEN IF HE IS A MERE COPYCAT, HE HAS PROVEN TO BE JUST AS DEADLY AS HIS NOTORIOUS NAMESAKE!

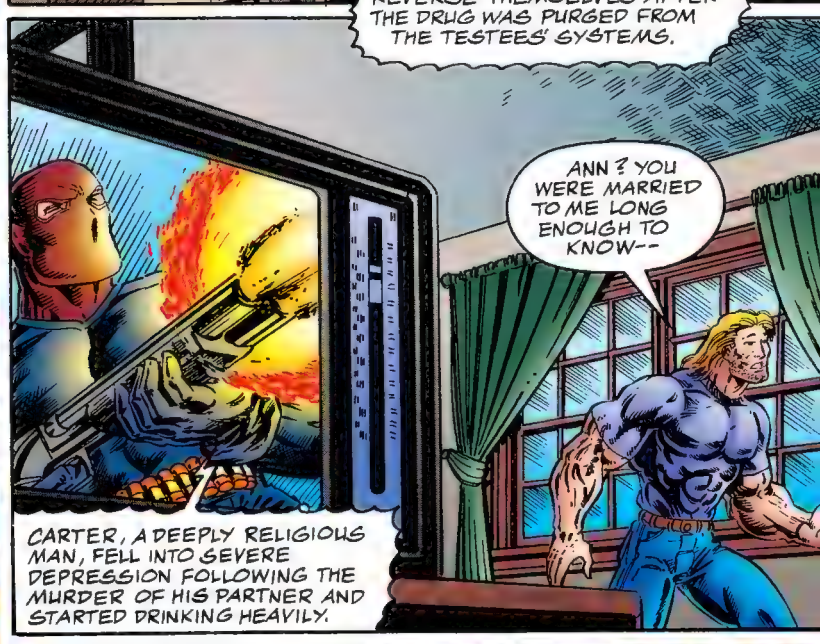

EX-POLICE LIEUTENANT STAN CARTER, THE ORIGINAL SIN-EATER, WAS FOUND MENTALLY INCAPABLE OF STANDING TRIAL AND WAS REMANDED TO A MENTAL FACILITY WHERE HE WAS APPARENTLY CURED AND LATER RELEASED.

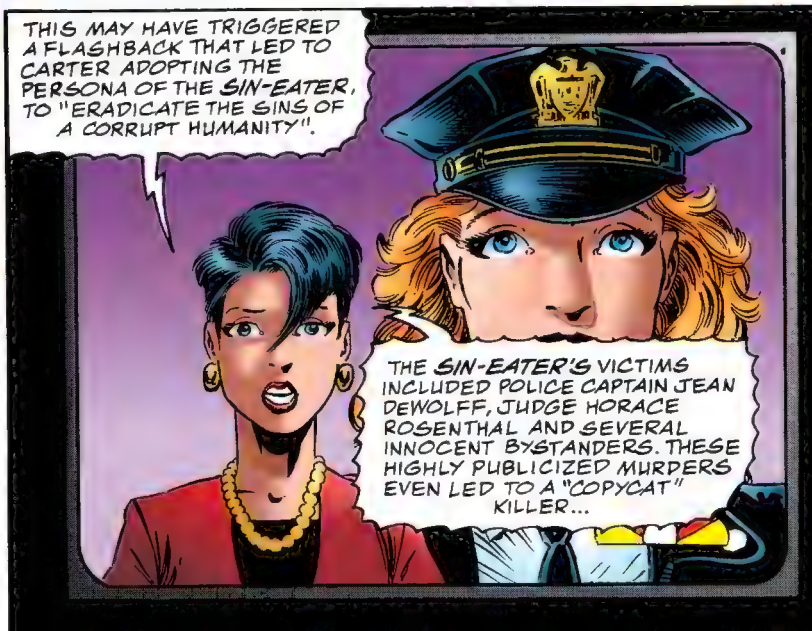

...IN A FINAL ACT OF DESPAIR, HE GOADED POLICE INTO OPENING FIRE ON HIM BY KIDNAPPING A CHILD WITH WHAT PROVED TO BE AN UNLOADED SHOTGUN.
ANN?

IT'S EDDIE...
ANN, I KNOW I'M THE LAST PERSON YOU WANT TO SEE, BUT I'M HURTING AND I'VE GOT NOWHERE ELSE TO GO--


IT WAS LATER REVEALED THAT PRIOR TO JOINING THE NYPD, CARTER HAD BEEN A SHIELD AGENT AND HAD PARTICIPATED IN A DRUG-TESTING PROGRAM THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO INCREASE HUMAN STRENGTH AND STAMINA...


ANN? YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID OF ME--YOU KNOW I'D NEVER HURT YOU--
...BUT ALSO HAD THE UNFORTUNATE SIDE-EFFECT OF TURNING THE TESTEES INTO DELUSIONAL BERSERKERS.


IT WAS MISTAKENLY ASSUMED THAT THE EFFECTS WOULD REVERSE THEMSELVES AFTER THE DRUG WAS PURGED FROM THE TESTEES' SYSTEMS.
ANN? YOU WERE MARRIED TO ME LONG ENOUGH TO KNOW--
CARTER, A DEEPLY RELIGIOUS MAN, FELL INTO SEVERE DEPRESSION FOLLOWING THE MURDER OF HIS PARTNER AND STARTED DRINKING HEAVILY.


THIS MAY HAVE TRIGGERED A FLASHBACK THAT LED TO CARTER ADOPTING THE PERSONA OF THE SIN-EATER, TO "ERADICATE THE SINS OF A CORRUPT HUMANITY".
THE SIN-EATER'S VICTIMS INCLUDED POLICE CAPTAIN JEAN DEWOLFF, JUDGE HORACE ROSENTHAL AND SEVERAL INNOCENT BYSTANDERS. THESE HIGHLY PUBLICIZED MURDERS EVEN LED TO A "COPYCAT" KILLER...

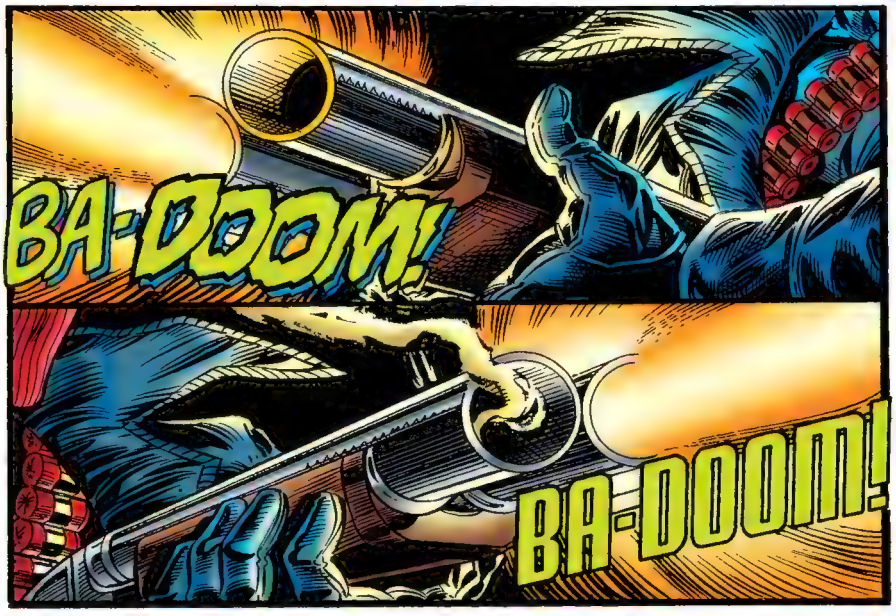
...EMIL GREGG ACTUALLY CONFESSED TO BEING THE SIN EATER BEFORE THE CAPTURE OF CARTER, AND HE WAS EVEN ARMED WITH THE REAL SHOTGUN AND WEARING THE REAL COSTUME, BUT HE TURNED OUT TO BE CARTER'S NEIGHBOR--
GREGG WAS A DISTURBED INDIVIDUAL TO BEGIN WITH WHO HEARD CARTER'S PARANOID RAVINGS IN THE NIGHT AND TOOK THEM TO BE VOICES FROM BEYOND, GIVING HIM INSTRUCTION.
GREGG WAS RELEASED ON HIS OWN RECOGNIZANCE AND HIS PRESENT WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN. COULD EMIL GREGG HAVE REVIVED HIS PREVIOUS DELUSION?
SHE'S NOT HERE.
SHE PROBABLY LEAVES THE T.V. ON TO FOOL WOULD-BE BURGLARS--
COULD HE BE THE MASKED MAN WHO GUNNED DOWN COMPUTER GAME MAGNATE FORDHAM RHODES AND HIS ATTORNEY F. BENNET FIELD ON THE STEPS OF THE COURTHOUSE...
I'D BETTER TURN IT OFF AND--
...AND SERIOUSLY WOUNDED FIELD'S LEGAL ASSISTANT ANN WEYING?
WHAT??

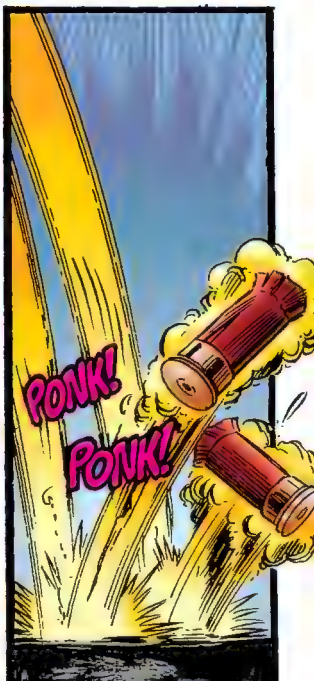
MEANWHILE...
...I MUST ADMIT, CHIEF REILLY-- I'M A BIT AMAZED AT THE SHEER AMOUNT OF POLICE PROTECTION I'M RECEIVING...
BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY, THAT'S WHAT EAMON X. REILLY SAYS!
I'VE ASSIGNED TWENTY E.S.U.* OFFICERS IN AN IN-DEPTH CORDON AROUND THIS HOSPITAL TO GUARANTEE YOUR SAFETY...
...DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT I'M STILL IN DANGER FROM THE SIN-EATER?
* EMERGENCY SERVICES UNIT.
"...THERE ARE SNIPERS ON THE ROOF...
"... A UNIFORMED PRESENCE AT THE DOORS...
"... S.W.A.T. TEAMS ROVING THE HALLS...
"...AND UNDERCOVER OPERATIVES AT KEY LOCATIONS!"
THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO WAY THAT THIS WACKO CAN EVEN GET BY THE FRONT DOOR!

PA-THOOM!
I WANT A SITUATION REPORT, IMMEDIATELY!
WE'VE GOT THREE OFFICERS DOWN AT THE FRONT DOOR, AND MAJOR STRUCTURAL DAMAGE!
THE MAIN ELECTRICAL CONDUIT UNDER THE STREET HAS BEEN BLOWN UP--ALL POWER HAS BEEN KNOCKED OUT FOR A TEN SQUARE BLOCK GRID!!
GET DOWN TO THE EMERGENCY GENERATOR ROOM AND SECURE IT ASAP!!
WHOMP
GENERATOR ROOM
SECURE!
NO, IT'S NOT--
--LOOK!
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK...
BACK OUT!
CALL THE BOMB SQUAD--
PA-THOOOOOM!
THE LIGHTS! WHAT HAPPENED TO--
GET A ROVING S.W.A.T. TEAM DOWN TO THE FRONT DOOR!
NO ONE GETS IN THIS BUILDING UNLESS YOU KNOW THEM PERSONALLY!!

YOU HEARD THE CHIEF--!
WE'RE SEALING THIS PLACE UP TIGHT!
HOW DO WE KNOW FOR CERTAIN THAT HE ISN'T ALREADY BEHIND US?

THE ONLY CERTAINTY IS THE WRATH OF THE LORD!!
WHU--


BA-DOOM!
BA-DOOM!


PONK!
PONK!

ON THE SECOND FLOOR...
SOMETHING'S UP ON THE CEILING--
WHAT IS THAT--?
IT'S VENOM!!
TAKE HIM DOWN!!!
BLAM!
BLAM!
POW!
BLAM!
AWW, AND I THOUGHT I COULD DO THIS WITHOUT UNDUE BALLISTIC TRAUMA!
POP
POP
POP
POP
POP
POP
LET'S SEE-- ANN WEYING-- ROOM 714!
CHIEF REILLY--!! VENOM IS ON THE SCENE AND HE'S ON HIS WAY UP TO WEYING'S ROOM!

DON'T WORRY! I FIGURED OUT A WAY TO GET SOME LIGHT ON THE SITUATION!
I'VE GOT WASHINGTON AND KOWALSKI, MY TOP E.S.U. BOYS, COVERING THIS ROOM, AND I'VE GOT ENOUGH TOE TAGS AND BODY BAGS FOR BOTH SIN-EATER AND VENOM!!
NO! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! IF EDDIE IS HERE, HE'S HERE TO PROTECT ME!!!
WHERE DO YOU WANT ME TO SET THIS UP, CAPTAIN REILLY? FLANAGAN IS RIGHT BEHIND ME WITH THE OTHER ONE--
SET IT UP TO COVER THE DOOR HERE, VASQUEZ--AFTER WE PILE SOME FURNITURE IN FRONT OF IT TO BLOCK ANYBODY COMING THROUGH!
FLANAGAN, GET YOUR FAT BUTT IN HERE AND SET UP THE OTHER LIGHT!
HEY, YOU'RE NOT FLANAGAN--

"I WILL DRAW MY SWORD, MY HAND SHALL DESTROY THEM."...
...EXODUS, 15:9.
BA-DOOM!
BA-DOOM!
GOOD LORD, KOWALSKI--!!
HE'S MOVING TOO FAST!
HOW DOES HE SEE IN THE #@!&% DARK!!
IT SAYS IN LEVITICUS 24:16--
APP!
BRRR
AAAA
--"ONE WHO BLASPHEMES THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE PUT TO DEATH!"

PLEASE, I NEVER DID ANYTHING TO YOU--
I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU--
I-- PLEASE--
AND HE SAID, "WOE ALSO TO YOU LAWYERS! FOR YOU LOAD PEOPLE WITH BURDENS HARD TO BEAR, AND YOU YOURSELVES DO NOT LIFT A FINGER TO EASE THEM." LUKE 11:46.
OH MY G-G--
"WOE TO YOU LAWYERS! FOR YOU HAVE TAKEN AWAY THE KEY OF KNOWLEDGE; YOU DID NOT ENTER YOURSELVES, AND YOU HINDERED THOSE WHO WERE ENTERING." LUKE 11:52
CLACK
KA-SHUNK!

HERE'S ONE FOR YOU--
"EXCLUSIVE! SIN-EATER REVEALED!" EDDIE BROCK, A.K.A.--
--VENOM!
OOOMPH!
THANK HEAVEN FOR BULLETPROOF VESTS--
--FREEZE, THE BOTH OF YOU, OR I'LL BLOW YOU AWAY!
--THAT WAS THE HEADLINE ON THE NEWSPAPER COLUMN I WROTE.
THE EXPOSÉ THAT TURNED OUT TO BE BASED ON THE LURID RAMBLINGS OF A COMPULSIVE CONFESSOR!!
BUT MAYBE I WASN'T WRONG AFTER ALL--!!
IS THAT YOU UNDER THE MASK AND NIGHT-VISION GOGGLES, EMIL GREGG??

BLAMM! BLAMM! BLAMM!
I WARNED YOU--
SPANG!
NO, YOU IDIOT!--
--I TOLD YOU HE CAME HERE TO PROTECT ME!!!
IF THAT IS YOU, GREGG--
--I'M GOING TO LEAVE JUST ENOUGH OF YOUR FACE TO MAKE A POSITIVE I.D.--
--AFTER I EAT YOUR BRAINS!!!

DON'T TRY IT, SINNER. YOU ARE STANDING ON THE BRINK OF ETERNITY!
IF I SHOULD RELEASE THIS DEAD MAN'S SWITCH FOR ANY REASON...
...WE SHALL ALL FACE OUR FINAL JUDGMENT!!
TO BE CONTINUED!

NOW 48 PAGES—SAME LOW PRICE!
VENOM
OCT • 2
MARVEL
SPIDER-MAN GROUP
SINNER TAKES ALL!
EAT THIS!
LUZNIAR
KOBLISH

If the righteous are repaid on earth, how much more the wicked and the sinner! proverbs 11:31
IF MY THUMB SHOULD SLIP OFF THIS DEAD MAN'S SWITCH, TWENTY POUNDS OF PLASTIC EXPLOSIVES WILL SEND US ALL TO ETERNITY!
ANN WEYING IS AN INNOCENT!
YOU LET HER GO, SIN-EATER, OR--
YOUR EX-WIFE CHOSE TO BE ONE OF THE EVIL BROOD, VENOM--
--PHARISEES, SCRIBES AND LAW-MAKERS!
SHE CHOSE TO DEFEND THE EVIL ACTIONS OF THE OPPORTUNIST FORDHAM RHODES, AND THUS...

REDEEMABLE UPON REQUEST

...SHE HAS BEEN JUDGED AND FOUND WANTING!!

BA-BOOM!

NOOOOOO!

EEEEEEEE!!

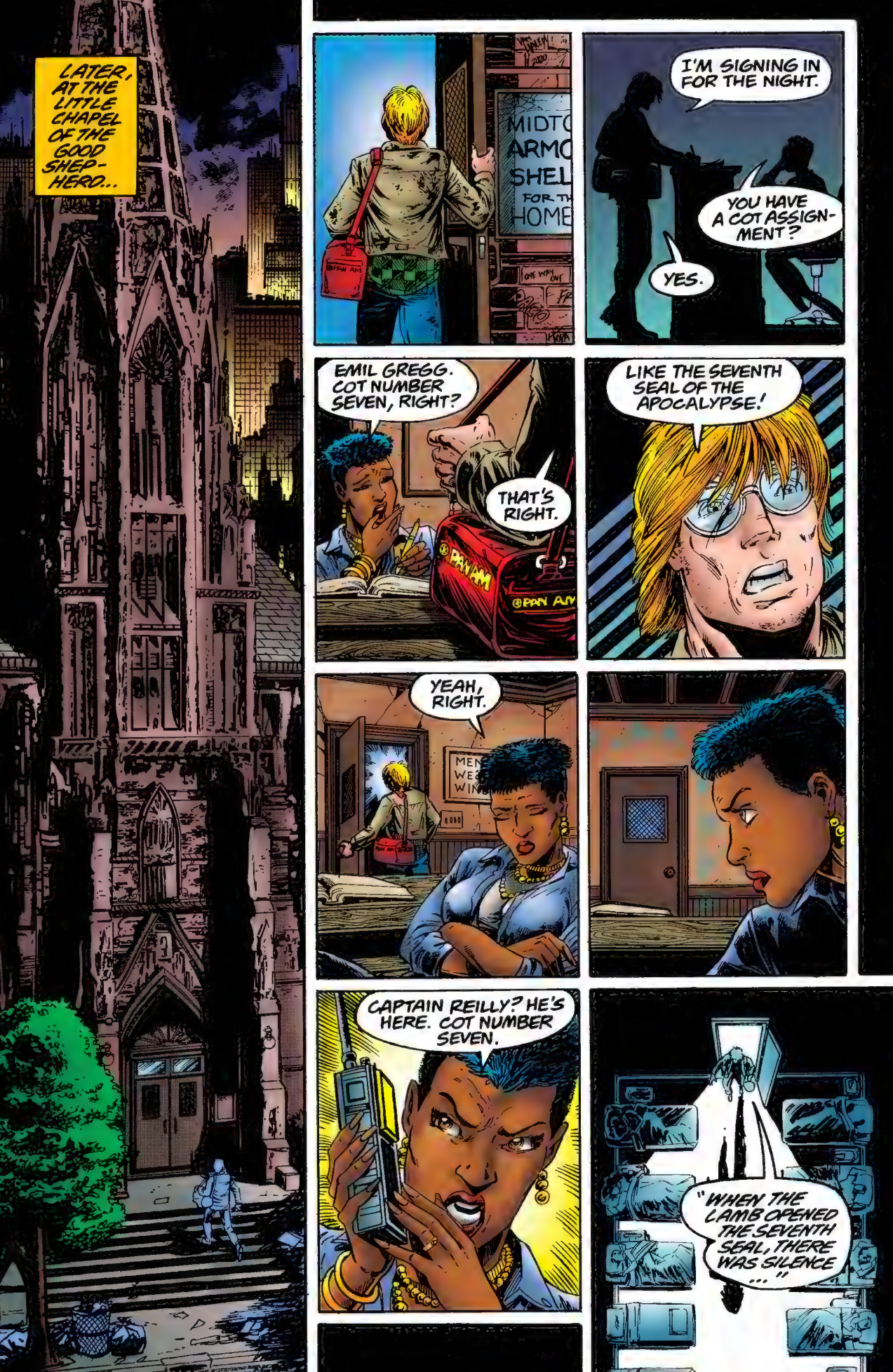
SCRIPT	LARRY HAMA
PENCILS	GREG LUZNIAK
INKS	SCOTT KOBLISH
COLORING	TOM SMITH
LETTERING	JOHN COSTANZA
EDITOR	TOM BREVOORT
EDITOR IN CHIEF	BOB BUDIANSKY

FWOMP!
GO FOR IT, SIN-EATER!
YOU TALK BIG, BUT WE DON'T THINK YOU HAVE THE GUTS TO LIFT YOUR THUMB--
EVEN WHILE WE'RE PULLING YOUR SPINAL CORD OUT THROUGH YOUR NOSE!
GIVE IT UP, LAD!
I DON'T THINK YOU REALLY WANT TO MEET YOUR MAKER WITH THE SIN O' SUICIDE BLACKENIN' YER SOUL!
I AM BEYOND SIN, CHIEF REILLY!
BA-DOOM
SPANGG

CHIEF REILLY!! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
BLESS YOU FOR THINKIN' O'ME, MISS WEYING--
--ME BULLET-PROOF VEST HAS SAVED ME AGAIN!
BIC BIC
FOOMP!
HE'S GONE--!
THE SIN-EATER HAS GONE AND DEFENES-TRATED HIMSELF!
HE'S MADE GOOD HIS ESCAPE!
PROBABLY HAD RAPPELING GEAR WITH HIM!
REILLY! ARE YOU IN THERE?
I'VE GOT THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL IN HERE, SEAMUS!
DON'T BE CHARGING IN WITH GUNS BLAZING UNLESS I GIVE THE WORD!
YOU'RE CALLING IT, CHIEF!

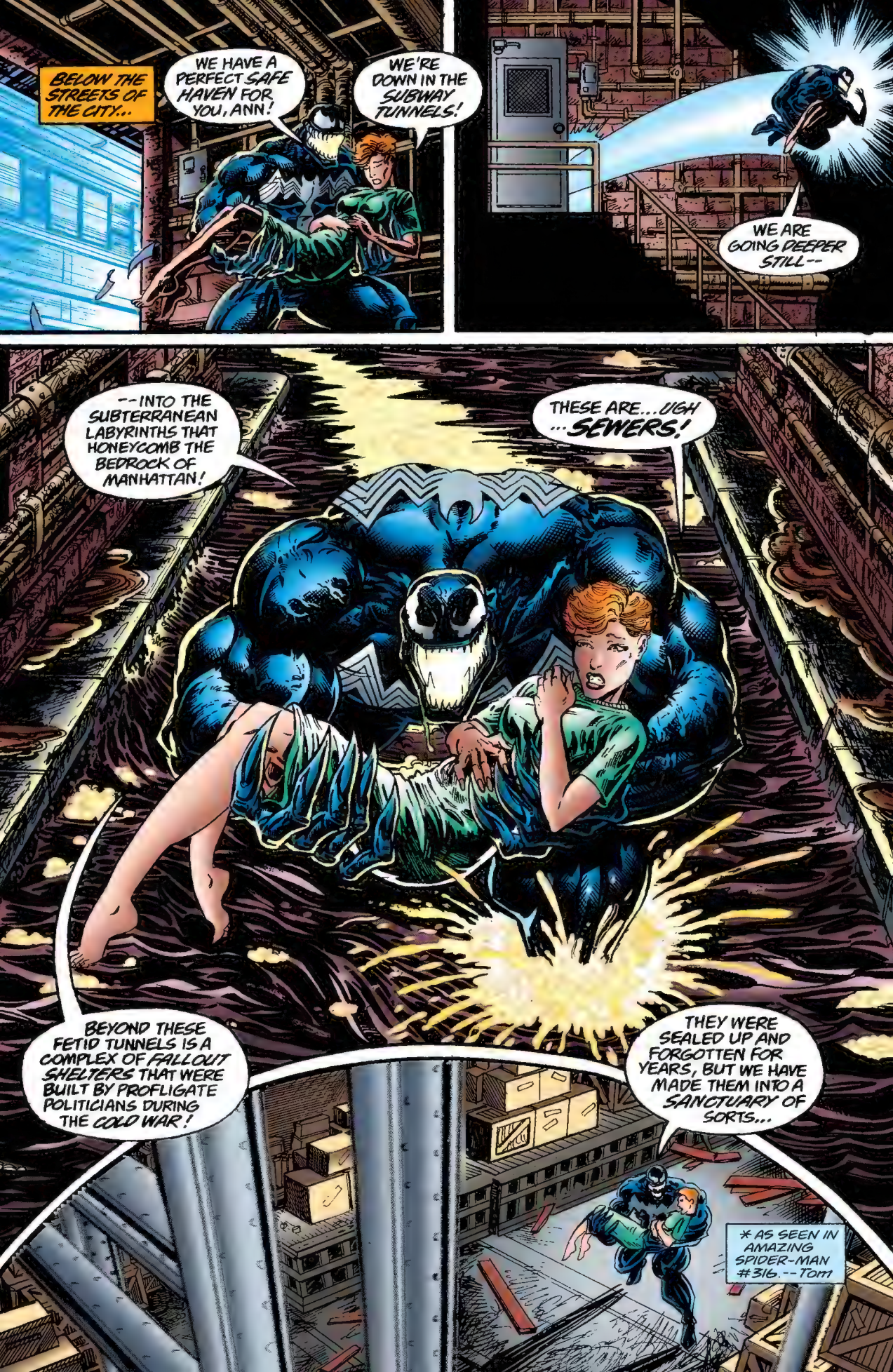
THOSE BOYS COME CHARGIN' IN, SOMEBODY'S BOUND TO GET HURT, AND THERE'S BEEN TOO MUCH O'THAT ALREADY.
AS BAD AN EGG AS YE ARE, YE PUT YOURSELF BETWEEN THAT MADMAN AND THE GIRL, AND THAT'S IN YER FAVOR.
WE HAD THE BEST WE HAD GUARDIN' HER, AND IT WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH--
--SO YOU JUST DO WHAT YE HAVE TO DO TO KEEP HER SAFE, AND WE'LL SORT OUT THE CONSEQUENCES LATER!
COME ON IN, SEAMUS!
POK
--YOU EXPECT TO FIND VENOM IN HERE?
EVERYBODY FREEZE--HUH?
SOMEBODY FETCH ME A SAWBONES--
WHAT ARE YE ALL GAPING AT--

WHERE CAN WE TAKE YOU, ANN?
YOUR WOUNDS-- YOU SHOULD BE RECEIVING CONTINUAL TREATMENT!
YOUR APARTMENT IS NO GOOD BECAUSE THE SIN-EATER CAN TRACK YOU DOWN THERE--
-- AND THE COPS WILL BE ALL OVER IT, ANYWAY!
EDDIE--
HOW ARE WE GOING TO KEEP YOU SAFE WHILE WE TRACK DOWN THIS MANIAC?? HOW--
EDDIE--!
PLEASE-- YOUR FACE-- AT LEAST LET ME SEE EDDIE!
OH.
SORRY, ANN.
IS THIS BETTER?
MUCH.
I THOUGHT OF A PLACE WHERE NOBODY CAN FIND US!


LATER, AT THE LITTLE CHAPEL OF THE GOOD SHEP-HERD...
I'M SIGNING IN FOR THE NIGHT.
YOU HAVE A COT ASSIGN-MENT?
YES.
EMIL GREGG. COT NUMBER SEVEN, RIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT.
LIKE THE SEVENTH SEAL OF THE APOCALYPSE!
YEAH, RIGHT.
CAPTAIN REILLY? HE'S HERE. COT NUMBER SEVEN.
"WHEN THE LAMB OPENED THE SEVENTH SEAL, THERE WAS SILENCE ... "

THAT'S MORE THAN WE GET AROUND HERE! SHUT UP, GREGG!!
YOU KEEP A LID ON IT OR WE'LL STUFF YOUR HEAD DOWN THE JOHN AGAIN!
I'LL DO WORSE THAN THAT!
YO, GREGG! I SAW GOD LAST NIGHT JUST BEFORE I PASSED OUT IN THE DUMPSTER!
"AND THE LORD SENT YOU ON A MISSION, AND SAID--
"--'GO, UTTERLY DESTROY THE SINNERS...
"...AND FIGHT AGAINST THEM UNTIL THEY ARE CONSUMED!"
POLICE! FREEZE! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!
WHA--?
LIE FLAT ON THE BED ON YOUR STOMACH AND PUT YOUR HANDS BEHIND YOUR HEAD!

DON'T EVEN FLINCH, GREGG!
READ HIM THE MIRANDA!
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT...
WHAT'S IN THE BAG, GREGG?!
NOTHING! JUST TRACTS! BIBLE TRACTS!
TRACTS, HUH?
THIS MUST BE A CHAPTER OUTTA APOC-ALYPSE!
LET'S GO, COP-KILLER!
I SHALL BE DELIVERED, EVEN AS DANIEL IN HIS INNOCENCE WAS DELIVERED FROM THE MOUTHS OF THE LIONS!
"WHEN I WHET MY FLASHING SWORD, AND MY HAND TAKES HOLD ON JUDGMENT;
"I WILL TAKE VENGEANCE ON MY ADVERSARIES...
"...AND WILL REPAY THOSE WHO HATE ME." DEUTERONOMY 32:41


BELOW THE STREETS OF THE CITY...
WE HAVE A PERFECT SAFE HAVEN FOR YOU, ANN!
WE'RE DOWN IN THE SUBWAY TUNNELS!
WE ARE GOING DEEPER STILL--
--INTO THE SUBTERRANEAN LABYRINTHS THAT HONEYCOMB THE BEDROCK OF MANHATTAN!
THESE ARE...UGH ...SEWERS!
BEYOND THESE FETID TUNNELS IS A COMPLEX OF FALLOUT SHELTERS THAT WERE BUILT BY PROFLIGATE POLITICIANS DURING THE COLD WAR!
THEY WERE SEALED UP AND FORGOTTEN FOR YEARS, BUT WE HAVE MADE THEM INTO A SANCTUARY OF SORTS...
* AS SEEN IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #316.--Tom

AND YOUR WOUNDS ARE BLEEDING AGAIN!
OHHH! I'M HURTING!! THE PAIN KILLERS MUST BE WEARING OFF--
ALL THIS TRAVELING MUST HAVE STRETCHED THE SUTURES-- SHE MIGHT EVEN BE BLEEDING IN-TERNALLY!
WE MUST DO SOMETHING TO HELP HER!
YES?
WE COULD DO THAT?
IT WOULD BE A SHARING?
ANN... WE ARE GOING TO EXTEND THE SYMBIOTE AROUND YOU, TO HEAL YOU--
--THIS WILL INVOLVE YOUR BECOMING A PART OF US FOR A WHILE--
A PART OF THAT THING??
OH MY GOD--
--WHAT ARE YOU SAYING??
THERE'S NOTHING ELSE WE--
--I CAN DO, ANN.
IT'S THE ONLY WAY.

DON'T BE AFRAID, ANN.
THE OTHER IS A FRIEND!
IT'S HORRID!!
I SAW WHAT IT DID TO YOU--
IT CHANGED YOU! IT MADE YOU--
OH...
RELAX.
LET YOUR PAIN MELT AWAY.
OH, EDDIE... IT'S SO WARM AND SOOTHING...
...LIKE A NICE HOT BATH.
SHHHH...
...JUST LET YOURSELF DRIFT OFF TO SLEEP.

AT MIDTOWN CENTRAL...
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO WAIVE YOUR RIGHTS AND MAKE A STATEMENT, MR. GREGG?
I TOLD YOU BEFORE THAT I WAS THE SIN-EATER, BUT DID YOU BELIEVE ME???
IT WAS THE VOICES, I TELL YOU -- THE VOICES THAT CAME THROUGH THE WALL!
THEY WERE ANGELS OF THE LORD, WHISPERING INSTRUCTIONS TO ME!! I WAS SIMPLY DOING THE LORD'S WORK!
WHAT DO YOU THINK, DETECTIVE STEEN?
I DON'T LIKE IT, CHIEF.
GREGG SHOULD HAVE COUNSEL PRESENT. WE HAVE THE GUN AND THE EXPLO-SIVES AND THE COSTUME.
WHEN FINGERPRINTS AND FORENSICS CONFIRM THE CONNECTION, WE HAVE A SOLID CASE WITHOUT A STATE-MENT!
RIGHT. LET'S GET HIM OUT OF HERE AND INTO ISOLATION...

YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T BE HERE, MRS. KOWALSKI. THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR SON HERE--
HE WORKED HERE! YOU WERE HIS FRIENDS! CAN'T YOU DO ANYTHING??
SOMEBODY'S GOTTA DRIVE STAN'S MOM HOME AND STAY WITH HER--
I'LL DO IT. WE GOTTA TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN, RIGHT?
HER SON WAS KILLED BY GREGG!
GET HER OUT OF HERE!!
IS THAT HIM??
IS THAT THE BUM??
HOLDING
BOOKING
BLAM!!!
SIG 226

SHE'S SLIPPING!
HER PULSE IS FADING!
HER LIPS ARE TURNING BLUE--
THERE'S NOTHING ELSE LEFT TO DO!
WE MUST SEPARATE!
YOU, MY OTHER, MUST MELD WITH ANN COMPLETELY!
IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE HER!
YES, I UNDERSTAND THE TORMENT OF SUNDERING OUR SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP--
--BUT YOU CAN'T REFUSE!
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE, IF YOU DON'T DO THIS...
...I'LL LEAVE YOU FOREVER!
UNDERSTOOD?
GO AHEAD AND DO IT.

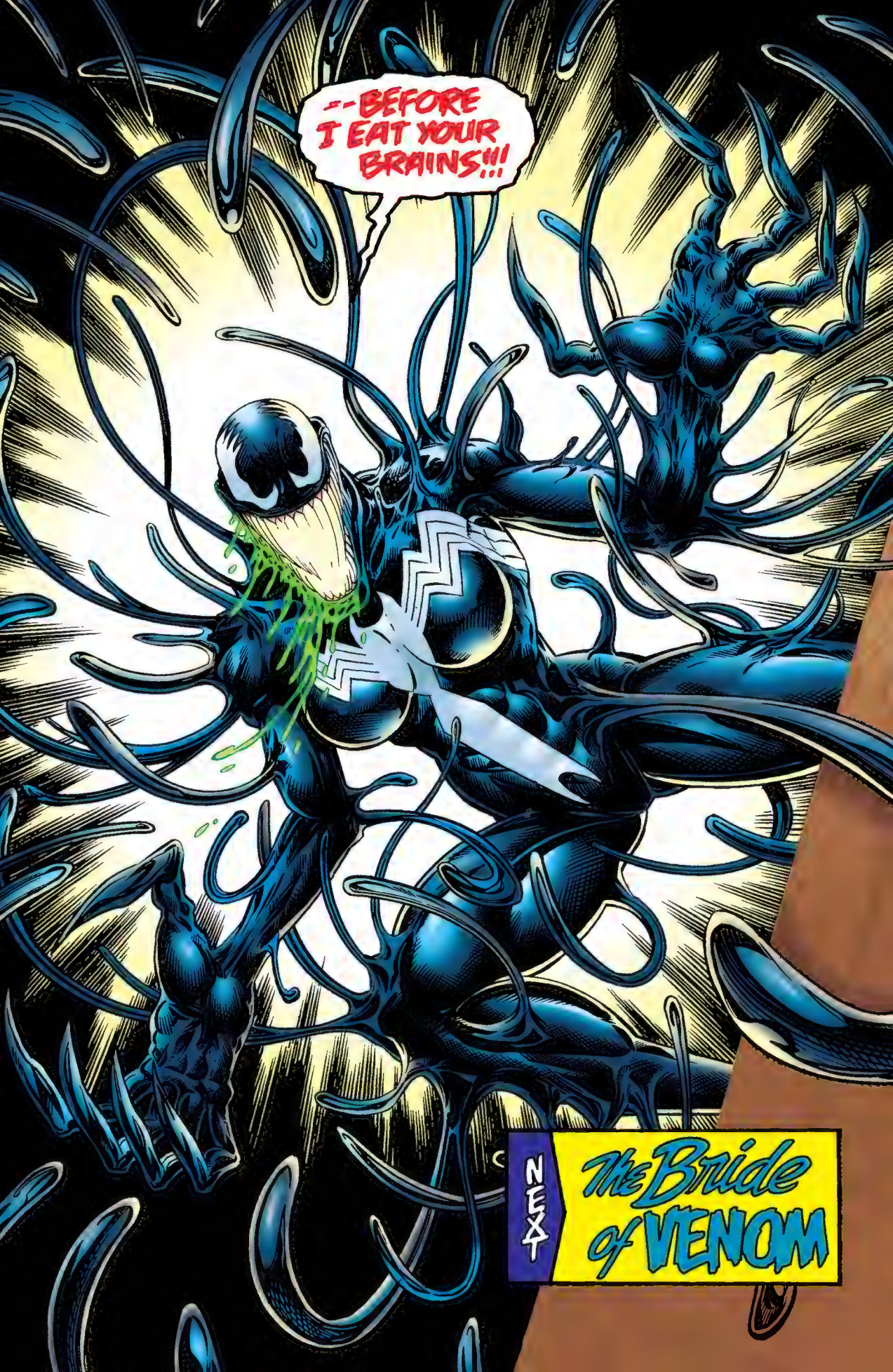
WE'RE GOING TO MAKE YOU ALL RIGHT AGAIN, ANN...
...WE PROMISE.
I PROMISE.

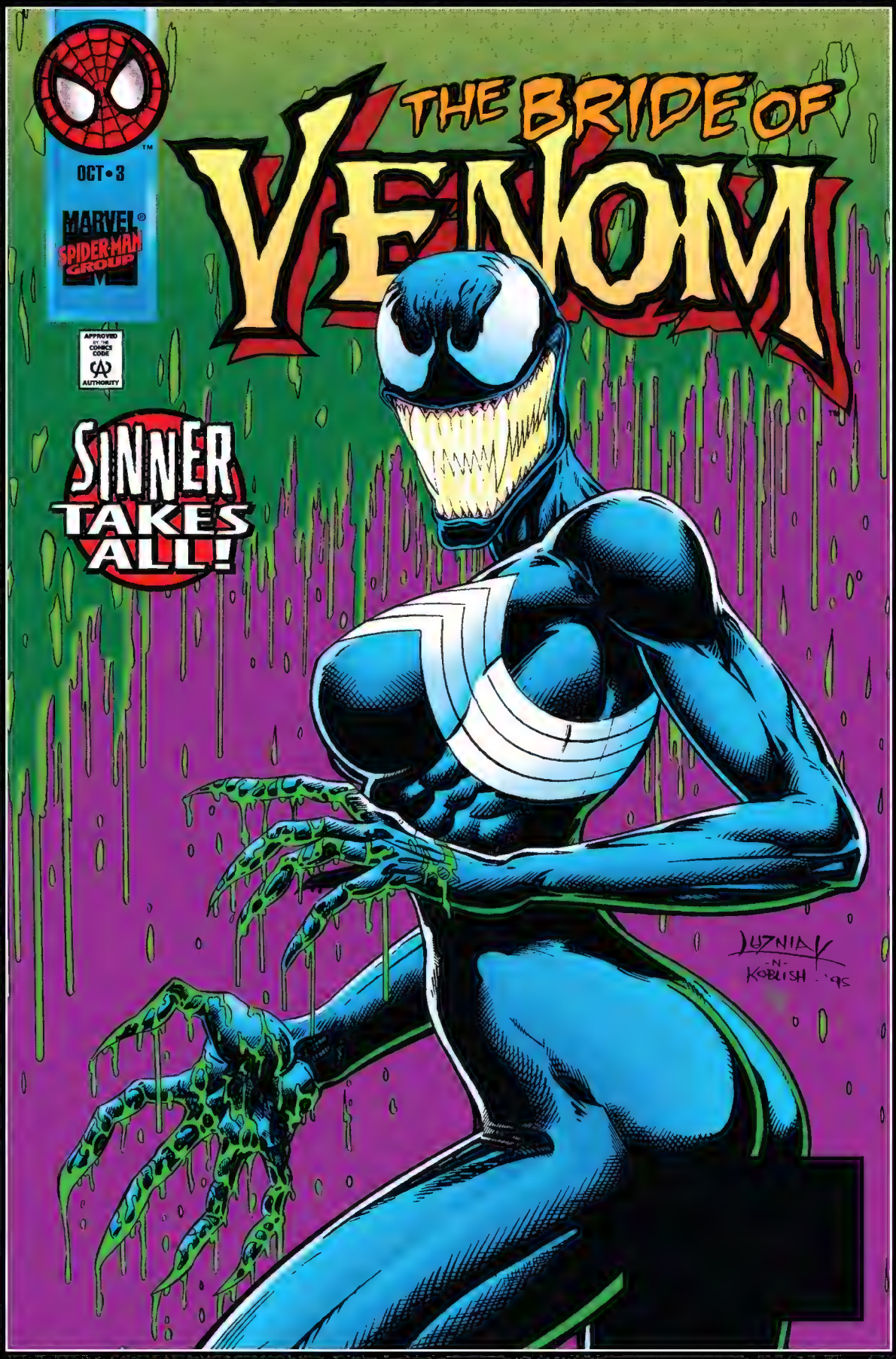
AT MIDTOWN CENTRAL...
BAD NEWS FROM THE LAB!
THE PARAFIN TEST ON GREGG'S HANDS CAME BACK NEGATIVE.
THE GUY HASN'T FIRED A GUN IN THE LAST WEEK, LET ALONE IN THE LAST FEW HOURS!
HE WAS WEARING GLOVES!
THE SHOTGUN AND BAG ARE COVERED WITH FINGERPRINTS-- ONLY NONE OF THEM ARE EMIL GREGG'S!
HOLY SMOKE! WE GOT THE WRONG GUY?
THEN THE REAL SIN-EATER IS STILL OUT THERE LOOSE?
IT GETS WORSE! WE GOT A MATCH ON THE PRINTS FROM THE GUN...
...THEY BELONG TO A MICHAEL ENGELSCHWERT. THIS GUY WAS AN AIRBORNE RANGER IN THE GULF WAR--

"--EXPERT MARKSMAN, HAND-TO-HAND, EXPLOSIVES TRAINING, THE WORKS!!"
...Amazing Grace how sweet the sound...
HEY, SHADDUP!
...That saved a wretch like me!
WE GOT RID OF GREGG, NOW WE GOT ENGLE-SQUIRT ACTIN' UP?
YO! CHILL OUT ON MICKEY E.!
HE BAD OR SOMETHIN'?
HE GOT THEM LOOSE CARNATIONS, MAN...
...But now am found...
ENGELSCWHERT MICHAEL G.
...FROM BEIN' NEXT TO GREGG ALL THAT TIME, SOAKIN' UP THEM WEIRDNESS RAYS COMIN' OUT HIS WHACK HEAD--
...Was BLIND, but NOW, I SEE!!!
--AN' MICKEY E. AIN'T PACKIN' NO BIBLE, MAN-- THAT BOY IS STRAPPIN'!

CLICK!
EH?
THE DOOR--
--I FORGOT TO LOCK IT!
BAD NEWS, SINCE THERE'S NOBODY PROWLING AROUND DOWN HERE...
...BUT PREDATORS.!!
WELL LOOKY HERE, BIG BROWN--! WE DONE STUMBLED ON A SECRET HIDEAWAY!
WATCHOO HIDIN' HERE, FABIO? YOU GOT ANY MONEY? YOU GOT ANY DRUGS?
WHAT I HAVE IS UTTER CONTEMPT...

...FOR THE BOTTOM FEEDERS OF SOCIETY'S DREGS!
WHOOMP
YOU HYENAS--
PA-CHAK!
--NIPPING AT THE HEELS OF THE HELPLESS...
CRACK
...AND THE INNOCENT!!
PA-CHOOM
KA-CHANG!
YOU GOT A BIG MOUTH, FABIO!
NOW I'M GONNA FLATTEN YER HEAD OUT TO FIT IT--
DROP THE BAT, PUS-FACE--
SAY WHA--?


--BEFORE I EAT YOUR BRAINS!!!
NEXT
The Bride of VENOM


THE BRIDE OF
VENOM
OCT • 3
MARVEL
SPIDER-MAN GROUP
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SINNER TAKES ALL!
LUZNIAK
-N-
KOBLISH '95

DEEP BENEATH THE STREETS OF NEW YORK CITY IN THE SECRET LAIR OF EDDIE BROCK, A.K.A. VENOM...
YOU LET HIM GO--
--OR I'LL EAT YOUR BRAINS!!
ANN?
HUH? WUZZAT, BIG BROWN?
I DUNNO, JUNIOR--

EVE OF DESTRUCTION!

-- BUT IT SURE AS HECK IS FEMALE!!

HOO-HA!!

WE CAN PUT A SACK OVER HER UGLY HEAD AFTER WE STOMP HER INTO SUBMISSION!

WAIT! YOU DON'T KNOW--

IT'S BAD ENOUGH THAT YOU'RE THIEVING LOW-LIFE TROGLODYTES--

--BUT YOU'RE SEXIST PERVO PIGS TO BOOT?

LARRY HAMA SCRIPT

GREG LUZNIAK BREAKDOWNS

JIMMY PALMIOTTI & KEN BRANCH FINISHES

TOM SMITH COLORING

KEN LOPEZ LETTERING

TOM BREVOORT EDITOR

BOB BUDIANSKY EDITOR IN CHIEF

GUH!
SO, YOU WANT CARESSES?
YOU WANT THE FEEL OF WOMANLY FINGERS ON YOUR HAIRY, SCABBY THROATS?
GACK!
I'LL BET YOU DO!
EEEEYAAA--
THWAMM
WHOMP
I'M GOING TO RIP YOUR OWN GUTS OUT AND STUFF THEM DOWN YOUR OWN THROATS!!

ANN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU AT ALL-- YOU'RE LETTING THE OTHER TAKE OVER--
WE MELDED YOU WITH THE OTHER SO THAT WE COULD HEAL YOUR WOUNDS-- NOT SO YOU COULD--
GET OFF ME, EDDIE--!
--A GIRL'S GOTTA DO WHAT A GIRL'S GOTTA DO!
THWACK!
ARRRRRGH!
SCHREKK!
POP!
CRASH!
SNIKT!
GUSH!
ANN! GOOD LORD-- CHOKE!

MEANWHILE, AT THE HOMELESS SHELTER IN THE CHAPEL OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD...
WE GOT A POSITIVE I.D. ON THIS PERP, CAPTAIN REILLY? ARE WE NAILING THE RIGHT WACKO?
YEAH! THE LAST SKEL WE HAULED IN FROM HERE TURNED OUT TO BE THE WRONG GUY, ONLY BY THE TIME WE FOUND OUT, KOWALSKI'S MOM HAD ALREADY BLOWN HIM AWAY!*
*LAST ISSUE.--TOM
WE GOT THE REAL SIN-EATER, THIS TIME!
MICHAEL ENGLESCHWERT SIGNED INTO THE SHELTER AND TOOK THE COT RIGHT NEXT TO EMIL GREGG! ENGLESCHWERT'S FINGERPRINTS WERE ALL OVER THE WEAPONS AND ORDNANCE.
ENGLESCHWERT WAS AN AIRBORNE RANGER IN THE GULF WAR. EXPLOSIVES EXPERT, LONG RANGE RECON, HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT INSTRUCTOR--
-- MEDICAL DISCHARGE; SECTION 8- "PSYCHOLOGICAL INSTABILITY".
GREGG WAS THE FIRST SIN-EATER WANNABE. HE HEARD "VOICES" THROUGH HIS WALL THAT TURNED OUT TO BE STAN CARTER, THE ORIGINAL SIN-EATER, DICTATING HIS WAR JOURNAL.
SO NOW WE'RE INTO THE THIRD GENERATION OF WACKOS!
IF THIS PSYCHO ENGLESCHWERT WAS LYING HERE EVERY NIGHT LISTENING TO GREGG RAVING AND RANTING, MAYBE HE FELL OFF THE SAME SHORT PIER, HUH?
CAN THE METAPHORS AND PULL THE COVERS!

OH, MAN-- MAJOR BUMMER!
BIBLE
YOU SNAKES, YOU BROOD OF VIPERS! HOW CAN YOU ESCAPE BEING SENTENCED TO HELL?
MATTHEW 23:33
BACK OUT! EVACUATE!!
BA-THOOOOM!

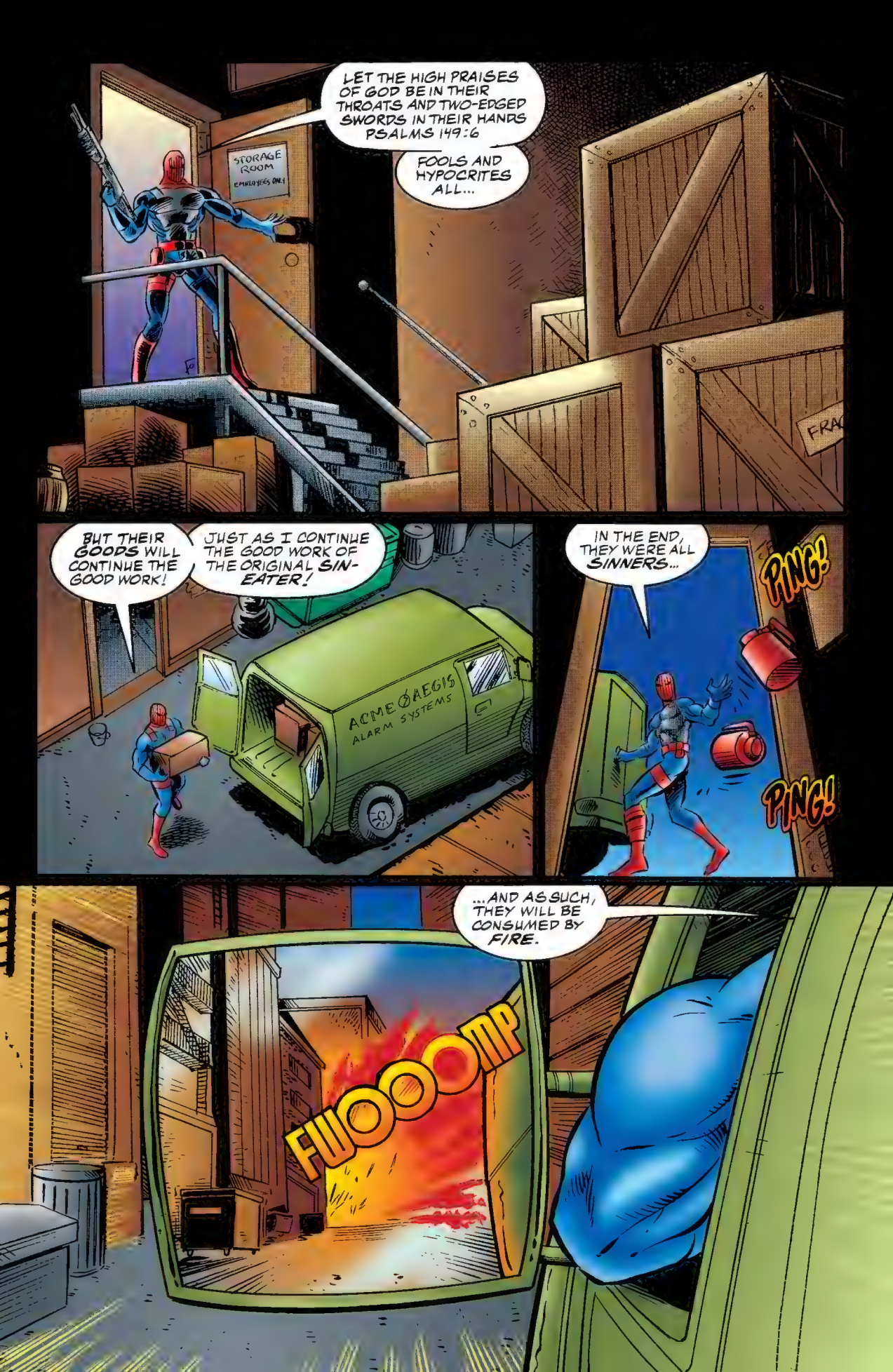
IN VENOM'S LAIR...
ANN! STOP IT!!
ANN, THE OTHER HAS GOT TO UNDERSTAND--
--IF THE OTHER DOESN'T LEAVE YOU IMMEDIATELY AND RETURN TO ME, I AM WALKING AWAY FROM IT FOREVER!!
OOOOH!
THAT'S MORE LIKE IT...
I--I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS LIKE BEFORE, BUT NOW I KNOW!
THE OTHER HAS ITS OWN WILL! IT'S A CONSTANT STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL, AND--AND IT IS SO CONVINCING!
IT'S LIKE BEING SEDUCED BY SOMETHING DARK AND EVIL!!
BUT WE TRIED TO HELP YOU!
THE OTHER HEALED YOUR WOUNDS!

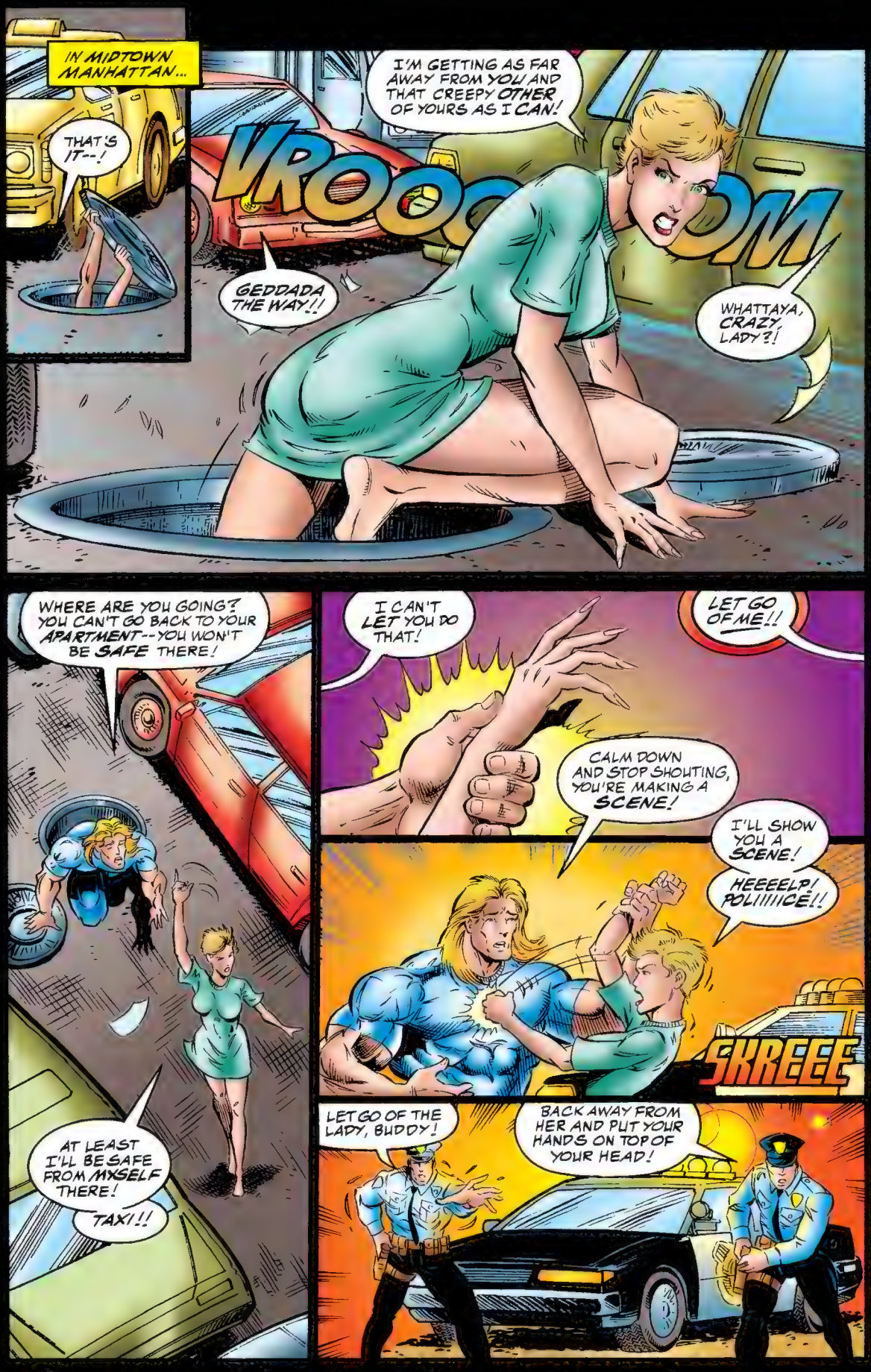
BUT IT WAS LIKE BEING VIOLATED! IT WAS--
GOOD LORD!!!
I DID THAT!! I DID THAT!! THAT THING MADE ME DO THAT!!
IT CAN'T MAKE YOU DO ANYTHING YOU DON'T REALLY WANT TO DO--
DON'T SAY THAT!!
STAY AWAY FROM ME!!
WHAT DID YOU DO TO ME??
I HATE YOU FOREVER!!

MEANWHILE, IN MIDTOWN MANHATTAN...
HI. I'M ANN WEYING'S SISTER FROM CHICAGO AND I JUST GOT INTO TOWN TO SEE HER...
WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR ME TO DROP OFF MY BAG HERE AT HER APARTMENT BEFORE I WENT OVER TO THE HOSPITAL TO SEE HER?
UH, SURE, MA'AM. I CAN LOCK IT IN THE STORAGE ROOM UNTIL YOU GET BACK--
I SURE AM SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR SISTER--
OOOOH--;SOB SOB;
I'M SORRY-- JUST THINKING ABOUT MY POOR LITTLE SISTER GETTING SHOT BY THAT HORRIBLE SIN-EATER JUST MAKES ME LOSE IT!*
*IN ISSUE #1.--TOM
OH, GOODNESS! LOOK AT ME! HOW CAN I SHOW UP AT THE HOSPITAL LOOKING LIKE THIS?
I CAN GET THE EMERGENCY KEY FROM THE SUPER AND YOU CAN GO UP TO YOUR SISTER'S APARTMENT AND FRESHEN UP!
YOU CAN LEAVE YOUR BAG THERE, TOO!
OH, THAT WOULD BE SO CONVENIENT!

IN STATEN ISLAND...
ACME AEGIS ALARM SYSTEMS
SORRY WE'RE CLOSED
ACME AEGIS ALARM SYSTEMS
NOK! NOK!
WHAT'S THE PASSWORD?
JACK-BOOTED THUGS.
COME ON IN, BROTHER--
--MICHAEL! GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT!! YOU'RE JUST IN TIME, THE MEETING'S ABOUT TO START!
THANKS FOR THE INVITE, FORREST--
CITIZENS MILITIA
HEY, EVERYBODY! LISTEN UP!
I'D LIKE YOU ALL TO MEET A REAL HERO OF THE GULF WAR! MIKE HERE WAS IN THE SAME OUTFIT WITH MY SON!
HE WAS A RANGER AND HE WENT ON SOME HAIRY SECRET MISSIONS BEHIND THE LINES-- YOU KNOW, BLACK WORK! ULTRA! ULTRA!
LET'S GIVE HIM A REAL WARM WELCOME AND LET HIM KNOW THAT THE FOLKS AT HOME ARE READY TO KEEP UP THE GOOD FIGHT!
THANK YOU! I THOUGHT I'D BRING BY A FEW SOUVENIRS FOR "SHOW AND TELL"...
THE BRITISH SAS CALL THESE BALACLAVAS. WE JUST LIKE TO CALL THEM SKI MASKS.
GOTTA STAY COVERT, YOU KNOW...
UNTIL IT'S TIME TO REVEAL YOURSELF TO THE ENEMY!
WHA? THIS GUY IS THE SIN-EATER?!

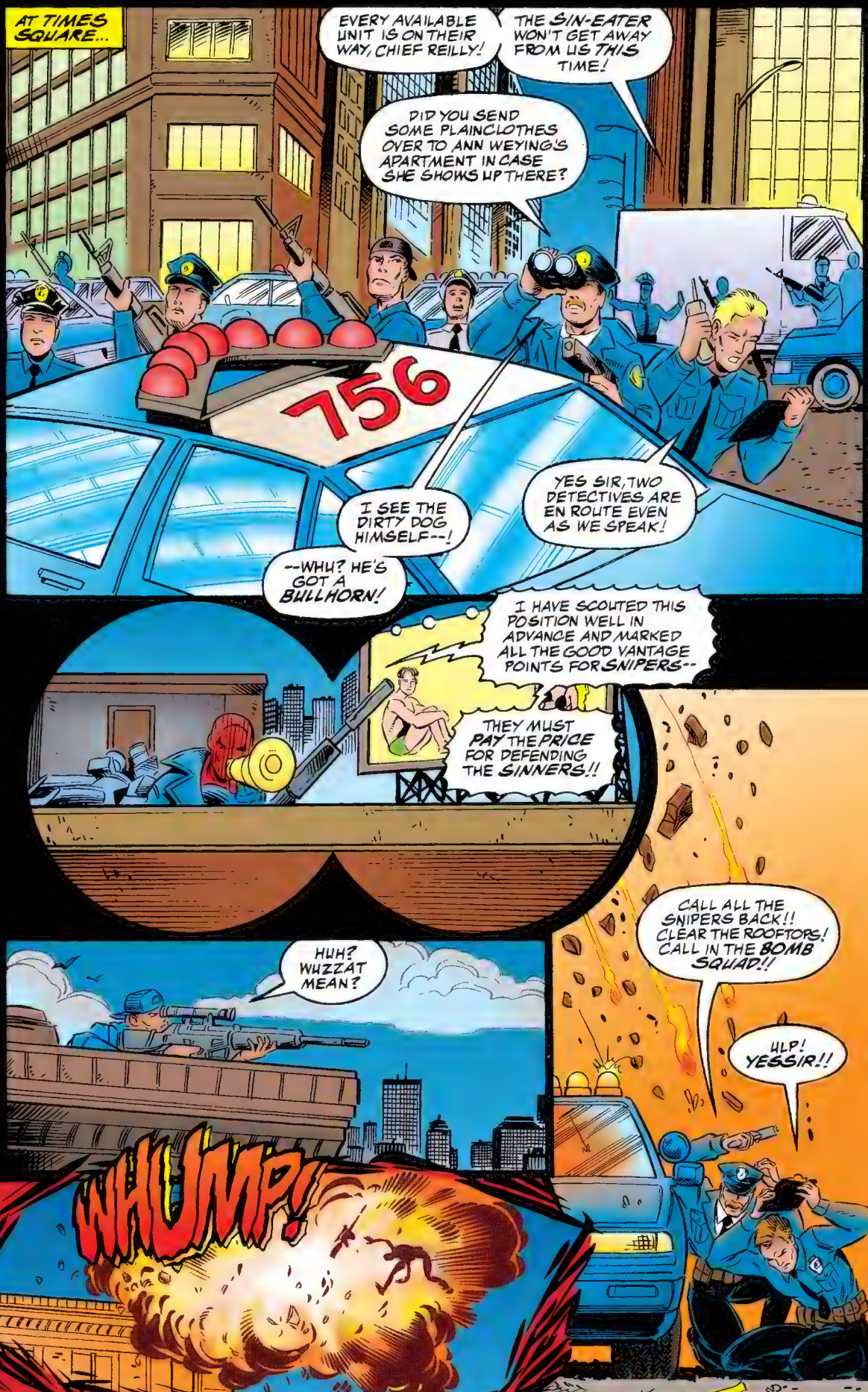
YOU SHALL GIVE CHASE TO YOUR ENEMIES, AND THEY SHALL FALL BEFORE YOU BY THE SWORD. LEVITICUS. 26:7
BLAMM!
BLAMM! BLAMM!
LET SINNERS BE CONSUMED FROM THE EARTH, AND LET THE WICKED BE NO MORE. PSALMS. 104:35
BLAMM!
BRAPP!
I GIVE UP! I'M UNARMED! I--
BLAM!
YOU ARE OBSTRUCTING THE LORD'S WORK!

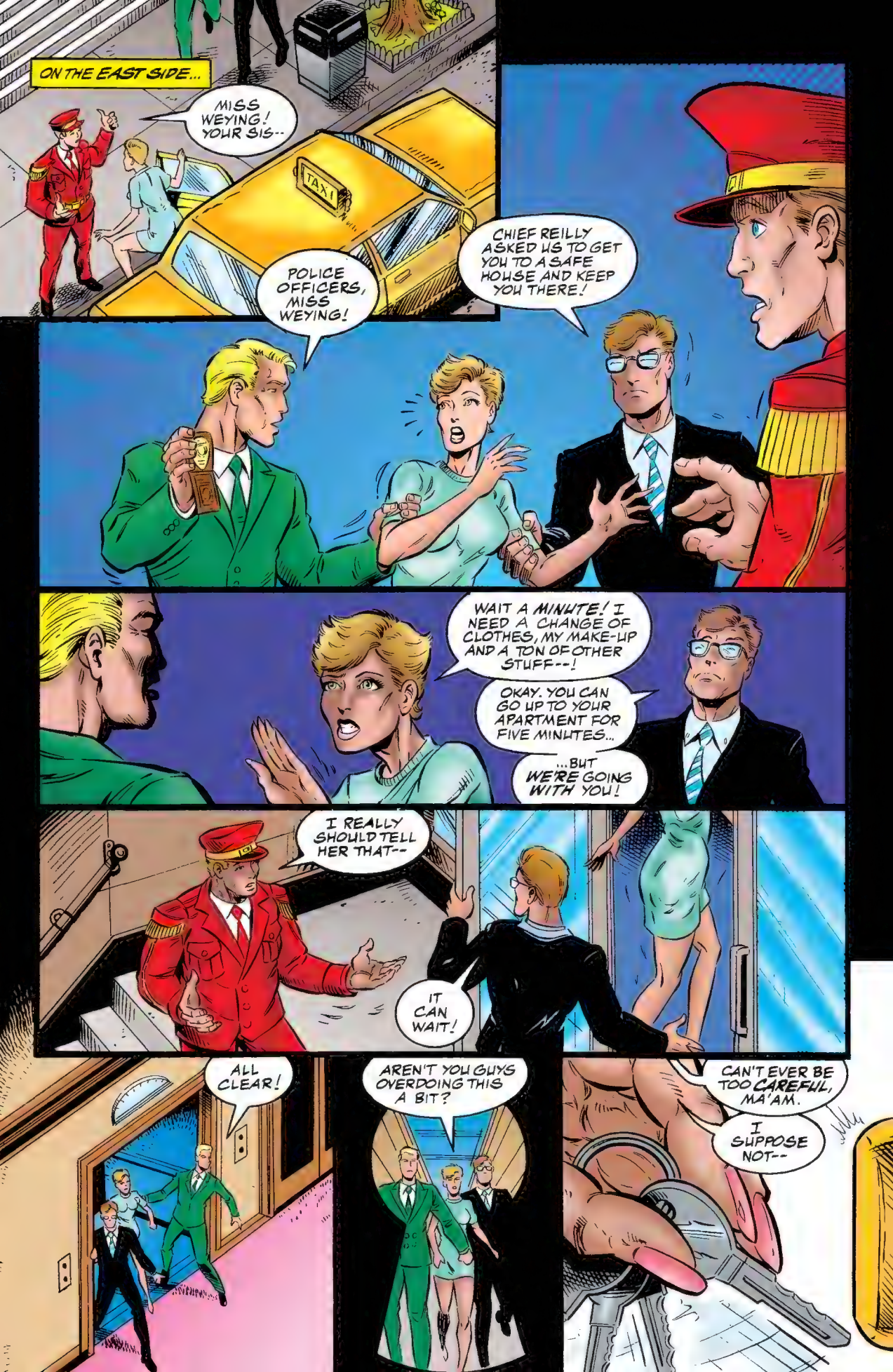

LET THE HIGH PRAISES OF GOD BE IN THEIR THROATS AND TWO-EDGED SWORDS IN THEIR HANDS PSALMS 149:6
FOOLS AND HYPOCRITES ALL...
STORAGE ROOM
EMPLOYEES ONLY
BUT THEIR GOODS WILL CONTINUE THE GOOD WORK!
JUST AS I CONTINUE THE GOOD WORK OF THE ORIGINAL SIN-EATER!
ACME AEGIS ALARM SYSTEMS
IN THE END, THEY WERE ALL SINNERS...
PING!
PING!
...AND AS SUCH, THEY WILL BE CONSUMED BY FIRE.
FWOOOMP


IN MIDTOWN MANHATTAN...
THAT'S IT--!
I'M GETTING AS FAR AWAY FROM YOU AND THAT CREEPY OTHER OF YOURS AS I CAN!
VROOOOOOOM
GEDDADA THE WAY!!
WHATTAYA, CRAZY LADY?!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING? YOU CAN'T GO BACK TO YOUR APARTMENT--YOU WON'T BE SAFE THERE!
AT LEAST I'LL BE SAFE FROM MYSELF THERE!
TAXI!!
I CAN'T LET YOU DO THAT!
LET GO OF ME!!
CALM DOWN AND STOP SHOUTING, YOU'RE MAKING A SCENE!
I'LL SHOW YOU A SCENE!
HEEEEELP! POLIIIIICE!!
SKREEE
LET GO OF THE LADY, BUDDY!
BACK AWAY FROM HER AND PUT YOUR HANDS ON TOP OF YOUR HEAD!

THIS ISN'T WHAT YOU THINK! SHE'S MY WIFE!
I AM NOT!!
HE'S MORPHING!!
GOOD GRIEF! IT'S VENOM!!!
WELL, WE'RE SURE NOT THE TOOTH FAIRY!!
THIS IS A BIG MISUNDERSTANDING, OFFICERS--
--WE'RE REALLY ON THE SAME SIDE!!
WHERE TO, LADY?
JUST GET OUT OF HERE FAST! HEAD OVER TO THE EAST SIDE!
COME BACK HERE, ANN!
OFF TAXI DUTY

YOU HAD YOUR WARNING, VENOM!
BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!
I HAVE NO WISH TO HARM ANY INNOCENTS--
--BUT CHANCES ARE GOOD THAT YOU TWO ARE ON THE TAKE!
ALL UNITS! THE SIN-EATER HAS BEEN CORNERED ON A ROOFTOP IN TIMES SQUARE!!
HE IS ARMED AND DANGEROUS AND--
TIMES SQUARE?
THAT AREA WILL BE TEEMING WITH INNOCENT COMMUTERS AT THIS TIME OF DAY!!
208


AT TIMES SQUARE...
EVERY AVAILABLE UNIT IS ON THEIR WAY, CHIEF REILLY!
THE SIN-EATER WON'T GET AWAY FROM US THIS TIME!
DID YOU SEND SOME PLAINCLOTHES OVER TO ANN WEYING'S APARTMENT IN CASE SHE SHOWS UP THERE?
756
I SEE THE DIRTY DOG HIMSELF--!
YES SIR, TWO DETECTIVES ARE EN ROUTE EVEN AS WE SPEAK!
--WHU? HE'S GOT A BULLHORN!
I HAVE SCOUTED THIS POSITION WELL IN ADVANCE AND MARKED ALL THE GOOD VANTAGE POINTS FOR SNIPERS--
THEY MUST PAY THE PRICE FOR DEFENDING THE SINNERS!!
HUH? WUZZAT MEAN?
WHUMP!
CALL ALL THE SNIPERS BACK!! CLEAR THE ROOFTOPS! CALL IN THE BOMB SQUAD!!
ULP! YESSIR!!


ON THE EAST SIDE...
MISS WEYING! YOUR SIS--
TAXI
POLICE OFFICERS, MISS WEYING!
CHIEF REILLY ASKED US TO GET YOU TO A SAFE HOUSE AND KEEP YOU THERE!
WAIT A MINUTE! I NEED A CHANGE OF CLOTHES, MY MAKE-UP AND A TON OF OTHER STUFF--!
OKAY. YOU CAN GO UP TO YOUR APARTMENT FOR FIVE MINUTES...
...BUT WE'RE GOING WITH YOU!
I REALLY SHOULD TELL HER THAT--
IT CAN WAIT!
ALL CLEAR!
AREN'T YOU GUYS OVERDOING THIS A BIT?
CAN'T EVER BE TOO CAREFUL, MA'AM.
I SUPPOSE NOT--

WH-WHO ARE YOU? HOW DID YOU--?
YOU DON'T KNOW THIS PERSON, MISS WEYING--?
I AM WHAT YOU MIGHT CALL A CONCERNED MOTHER...
...AND THIS WOMAN HAS NEVER SEEN ME BEFORE IN HER LIFE!
EEEEE!
PHUD! PHUD!
NOW THAT THE PIGS ARE WHACKED, YOU AND I CAN SIT DOWN AND RELAX A BIT...
...WHILE WE WAIT FOR YOUR EX-HUSBAND EDDIE BROCK, A.K.A. VENOM, TO SHOW UP!
WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH EDDIE?
WE HAVE A LITTLE SETTLING UP TO DO...
...FOR WHAT HE DID TO MY DAUGHTER, KIRSTIN!*
*IN VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED.

AT TIMES SQUARE...

JOKKEY

THERE HE IS--

--MR. HOLIER THAN THE WHOLE PLANET HIMSELF!

HE THINKS HE'S SAFE, ALL BARRICADED ON THAT ROOF...

HE THINKS NO ONE CAN GET TO HIM--

WHAT WAS THAT, ONE OF THOSE SUPER HEROES?

WHICH ONE WAS IT?

I CAN'T TELL-- HE'S A BLUR-- AND ANYWAY, THERE ARE SO MANY OF THEM, I CAN'T KEEP TRACK--

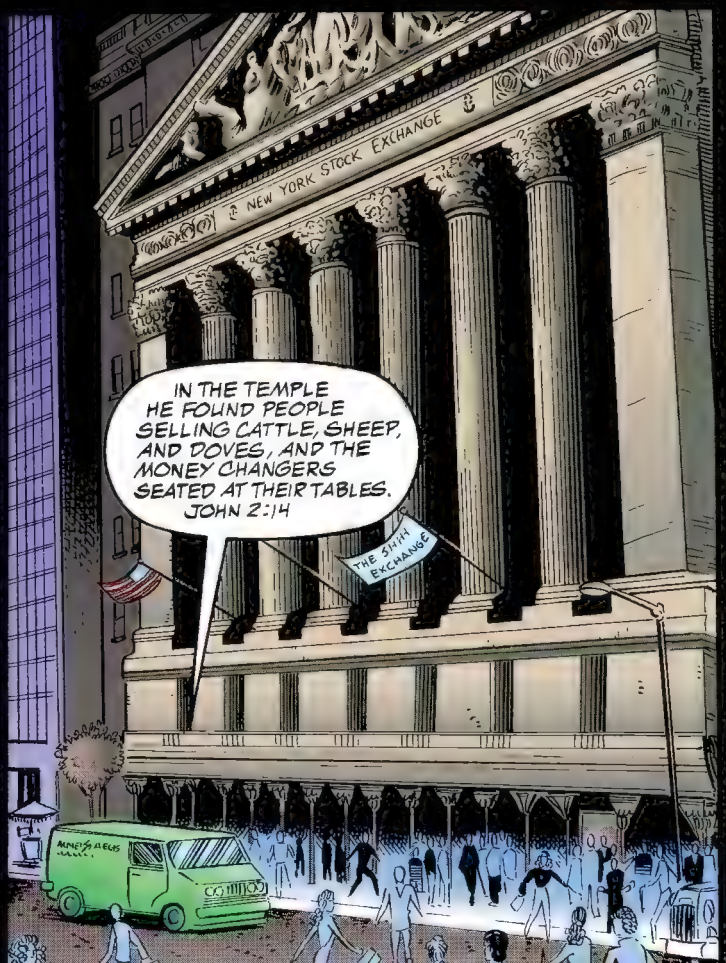
HEADS UP, SIN-EATER--

THUD!

--TIME TO GET YOUR BRAIN EATEN!!

KA-CHOMP

AGH! PTOOEY! IT'S A DUMMY!
AND THE BULLHORN IS RIGGED UP TO TAPE DECK! BUT WHY--!
THE TIME FOR JUDGMENT IS UPON YOU, SINNERS!!
IT'S A DECOY!
HE LURED ME AND THE COPS TO THE SAME PLACE SO HE COULD STRIKE SOMEWHERE ELSE WITH IMPUNITY...!
...BUT WHERE?


NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE
IN THE TEMPLE HE FOUND PEOPLE SELLING CATTLE, SHEEP, AND DOVES, AND THE MONEY CHANGERS SEATED AT THEIR TABLES. JOHN 2:14
THE SIXTH EXCHANGE

NEXT ISSUE: THE NO-HOLDS-BARRED **SHOWDOWN** BETWEEN **VENOM** AND **SIN-EATER!!**

IF YOU **MISS** IT, YOU HAVE ONLY YOURSELF TO BLAME!

VENOM
SINNER TAKES ALL!
NOV • 4
MARVEL
SPIDER-MAN GROUP

IN THE BASEMENT OF THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE...
THE JIG IS UP, SIN-EATER!!
WE'RE GOING TO DO THE SNACK-TIME CRUNCH ON YOUR CEREBRAL CORTEX!
"PRIDE GOETH BEFORE THE FALL," VENOM--

LARRY HAMA SCRIPT
GREG LUZNIAK PENCILS
KEITH AIKEN & JEFF ALBRECHT INKS
TOM SMITH COLORING
KEN LOPEZ LETTERING
TOM BREVOORT EDITOR
BOB BUDIANSKY EDITOR IN CHIEF

VENOM

...SO SHALL YE REAP!

...AND AS YOU KNOW, *PRIDE* IS ONE OF THE *SEVEN DEADLY SINS!*

DID YOU REALLY THINK YOU COULD STOP ME FROM BRINGING DOWN THIS *TEMPLE OF MAMMON?*

BA-DOOOM!

WHOOF!

TALK ABOUT *PRIDE--!*

YOU'RE REGISTERING PRETTY HIGH ON THE *HUBRIS-METER* YOURSELF, *SIN-EATER--!*

CALLING IN A *STATEMENT OF INTENT* TO A *TV STATION* AFTER SETTING UP A *DIVERSION* IN TIMES SQUARE SMACKS OF *EGREGIOUS SELF-CONFIDENCE...!*

THWAPP!

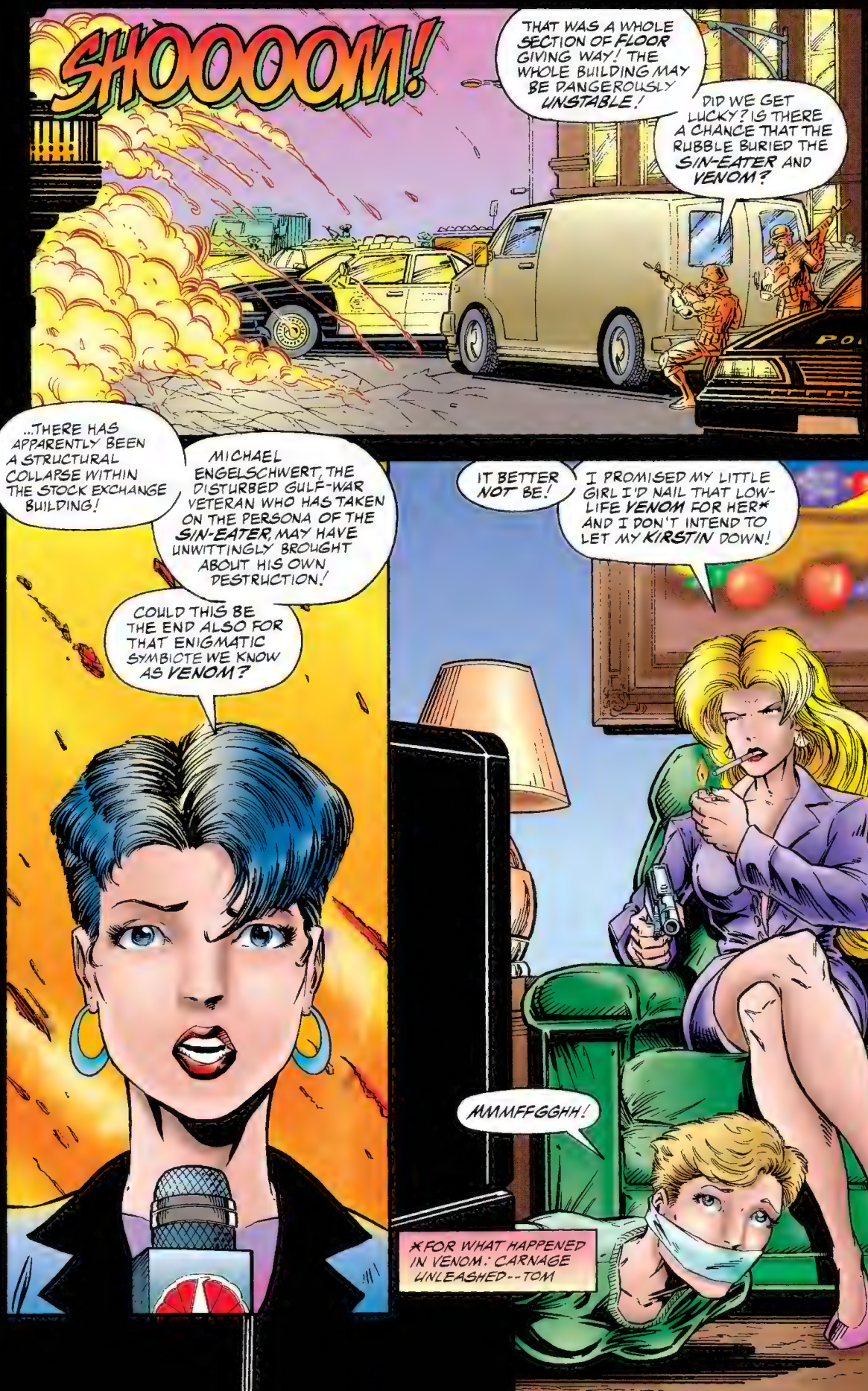
...EXCUSE US WHILE WE EXTRUDE YOUR DOUBLE O BUCKSHOT!
BINK!
BINK!
BINK!
BINK!
BINK!
BINK!
BINK!
YOU HAVE SUCCEEDED IN PUSHING OUR IRE OVER ACCEPTABLE LIMITS--
--NOW, AFTER WE EAT YOUR BRAIN...
...WE'RE GOING TO SUCK OUT YOUR WHOLE SPINAL CORD!!
I MADE THE CALL BECAUSE I REQUIRE WITNESSES TO THE PUNISHMENT I METE OUT FOR THE LORD!
SHUNK!
FOOOSH!
YOU, I SLAY BECAUSE YOU ARE A PAWN OF SATAN!
THIS IS CALLED A L.A.W.* ROCKET, VENOM--!
*LIGHT ANTI-TANK WEAPON.

PA-THOOOOM!
--AND IT PACKS A SURPRISING AMOUNT OF KINETIC ENERGY!
OH, I AM QUITE AWARE OF THE ABILITY OF YOUR INSIDIOUS OTHER TO ABSORB AND DIFFUSE THE BLAST...
...THAT'S WHY I'M INSURING YOUR DEMISE WITH AN ASSORTMENT OF GRENADES!
PING!
PING!
PING!
SHRAPNEL IS NO BETTER THAN BULLETS AGAINST US!
PING!
PING!
PING!
I MADE SURE TO INCLUDE THERMIT AND WILLY PETE--
--OH, THAT'S WHITE PHOSPHOROUS TO YOU NON-MILITARY TYPES!
THE STUFF BURNS FEROCIOUSLY--LIKE UNTO THE VERY FIRES OF ETERNAL DAMNATION!

BA-WHOOMPH!
WAS THAT IT? THAT WAS THE SO-CALLED "MASSIVE CHARGE" THAT THE SIN-EATER PLANTED IN THERE?
NO WAY! THOSE WERE GRENADES! ANTI-PERSONNEL ORDNANCE, NOT THE HEAVY STUFF!
THIS IS TRISH TILBY ON THE SCENE DOWNTOWN AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE, WHERE A MAJOR STORY IS UNFOLDING!
CHIEF REILLY HERE IS IN CHARGE OF A CRACK POLICE TEAM ENGAGED IN A DEADLY SHOWDOWN WITH THE INFAMOUS SIN-EATER!
WAS THAT EXPLOSION SOME SORT OF PRELIMINARY CHARGE?
NO, MISS TILBY-- WE BELIEVE THAT VENOM IS INSIDE TRADING SHOTS WITH THE SIN-EATER...
IN ANN WEYING'S MIDTOWN APARTMENT...
...HE BEAT US DOWN HERE BECAUSE YOUR TV STATION BROADCAST THE SIN-EATER'S STATEMENT INSTEAD OF KEEPING QUIET AND PASSING IT ALONG TO THE AUTHORITIES!
TSK! TSK! THE INIQUITIES OF THE FOURTH ESTATE!
REPORTERS ARE AS SLIMY AS LAWYERS, EH, ANNIE?
NOT AS SLIMY AS CONTRACT KILLERS!
NOBODY TAKES OUT A CONTRACT ON A NICE GUY, HONEY!

IN THE STOCK EXCHANGE...
FIRE!!
THE NOISE FROM THE EXPLOSIONS WAS DEBILITATING ENOUGH, BUT THESE FLAMES CAN DO US SOME REAL DAMAGE!
MAYBE NOT AS BAD AS THEY WOULD AFFECT CARNAGE, BUT THIS IS FAR MORE THAN MY OTHER CAN HANDLE!
...CHARGES ARE ALL SET TO THE MAIN SUPPORT PILLARS AND WIRED TO THE CENTER DETONATOR--
IT MIGHT BEHOOVE YOU TO PRAY, VENOM!
YOU'RE GOING TO BE FACING YOUR JUDGEMENT IN A MATTER OF MOMENTS!
JUDGEMENT, HUH?
I'LL GIVE YOU JUDGEMENT!!

IF I REMEMBER MY OLD TESTAMENT RIGHT, THERE WAS A JUDGE OF ISRAEL WHO GOT TRAPPED BY THE PHILISTINES...
...HIS NAME WAS SAMSON!
HOO-HA!!
KE-RACK!
KA-SHOOOOOOOOOM!


SHOOOOM!
THAT WAS A WHOLE SECTION OF FLOOR GIVING WAY! THE WHOLE BUILDING MAY BE DANGEROUSLY UNSTABLE!
DID WE GET LUCKY? IS THERE A CHANCE THAT THE RUBBLE BURIED THE SIN-EATER AND VENOM?
...THERE HAS APPARENTLY BEEN A STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE WITHIN THE STOCK EXCHANGE BUILDING!
MICHAEL ENGELSCHWERT, THE DISTURBED GULF-WAR VETERAN WHO HAS TAKEN ON THE PERSONA OF THE SIN-EATER, MAY HAVE UNWITTINGLY BROUGHT ABOUT HIS OWN DESTRUCTION!
COULD THIS BE THE END ALSO FOR THAT ENIGMATIC SYMBIOTE WE KNOW AS VENOM?
IT BETTER NOT BE!
I PROMISED MY LITTLE GIRL I'D NAIL THAT LOW-LIFE VENOM FOR HER* AND I DON'T INTEND TO LET MY KIRSTIN DOWN!
MMMFFGGHH!
*FOR WHAT HAPPENED IN VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED--TOM

AMAZING GRACE...
...HOW SWEET THE SONG...
...THAT SAVED A WRETCH LIKE ME!
A LITTLE FALLING RUBBLE CAN'T STOP THE WORK OF THE LORD!!
NO SIR!
GOTTA CHARLIE MIKE!
CONTINUE THE MISSION...
...JUST LIKE IN THE GULF!

GOTTA KEEP ON GOING TO THE OBJECTIVE--
--EVEN IF THE REST OF MY TEAM BOUGHT THE FARM WHEN THE BLACKHAWK WENT DOWN!
I HAVE THE STRENGTH!
I HAVE THE WILL!
BATTALION S-2 SAID THIS SCUD SITE IS ZEROED IN ON JERUSALEM!
A HOLY CITY!
WHO CAN STAND BEFORE ME WHEN THE LORD IS ON MY SIDE?
DIDN'T SAMSON SLAY TEN THOUSAND WITH AN ASS'S JAWBONE??

I CAN SET OFF THE SATCHEL CHARGES BY REMOTE CONTROL AND DESTROY THE MISSILE AND LAUNCHER!
I AM CONTINUING THE MISSION!
AND NOW, I AM ON A MISSION FOR A HIGHER POWER!
NOW, I HAVE TO BRING DOWN THE WRATH OF THE LORD ON THE WORSHIPPERS OF THE GOLDEN CALF!
I KNOW THE WAY--
--THE ANGEL OF THE LORD WHISPERED IT TO ME IN THE SHELTER!
ALL I HAVE TO DO IS PRESS THIS BUTTON--!

WHY IS IT THAT YOU PSYCHOS ALWAYS HEAR THESE VOICES...
THWIPP!
...THAT YOU ATTRIBUTE TO ANGELS OR SOME OMNIPOTENT CELESTIAL DEITY!
FWOOM!
WHY CAN'T YOU GRASP THE FACT THAT IT'S JUST THE SOUND OF LOOSE MARBLES RATTLING AROUND IN YOUR VACANT HEADS!!
BLASPHEMY! YOU DENY THE WORD--!!
THWACK!
JUST YOUR PERVERTED VERSION OF IT!!
YOU WANT TO HEAR VOICES? WE'RE GOING TO MAKE THE BIRDIES CHIRP INSIDE YOUR HEAD!
KA-SHUNG!

WE'VE WAITED LONG ENOUGH-- SEND IN THE SWAT TEAM!
IT'S ABOUT TIME REILLY GAVE US THE GREEN LIGHT!
KEEP IT TIGHT, BOYS! WE'RE HERE TO KICK BUTT AND TAKE NAMES!
HEAR THOSE VOICES YET, SIN-MUNCHER?
HEAR THEM GOING TWEET TWEET TWEET?
KA-SCHWAM!
ALL I HEAR IS THE VOICE OF THE LORD..
BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM
...AND IT IS THE SOUND OF SWEET THUNDER!
EEEYYAA!

YOU BOUGHT YOURSELF A LITTLE TIME, SIN-MUNCHER!
A WHOLE CLIP AT POINT BLANK RANGE IN THE FACE IS EVEN A LITTLE MUCH FOR MY OTHER TO COPE WITH--
--BUT AS SOON AS WE GET OURSELVES TOGETHER, WE ARE GOING TO REDUCE YOU TO STEAK TARTARE!
THERE THEY ARE! BLOW THEM AWAY!
RATATATAT!
HEY! YOU'RE SHOOTING THE WRONG GUY!!
WE'RE ON YOUR SIDE!!
PAWNS OF SATAN, ALL OF YOU--!!

YOUR WEAPONS OF DEMONIC EVIL HAVE NO POWER TO HARM ME!
BADOOM! BADOOM!
DON'T STRAIN THE QUALITY OF YOUR MERCY, MUNCHER!
THEY ARE AS USELESS AS FLAILS OF STRAW AGAINST AN AVENGING ANGEL OF THE LORD
JUST ONE OF YOU I SHALL SPARE FOR MY OWN PURPOSES!
RATATATATATAT!
NOT ANOTHER STEP, VENOM -- OR THIS CENTURION GOES TO HIS ETERNAL PUNISHMENT!
WHAT IS YOUR NAME, OFFICER?
M-MOORE!
CHIEF REILLY? I WANT MY VAN, THE ONE WITH THE BURGLAR ALARM LOGO, BACKED UP TO THE FRONT ENTRANCE IMMEDIATELY--
--OR I WILL MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF OFFICER MOORE!
HAND ME YOUR RADIO.

OFFICER MOORE AND I ARE LEAVING, VENOM--
IF YOU MAKE ONE MOVE TO STOP ME, THE BLOOD OF THIS INNOCENT WILL BE ON YOUR HANDS!
AND DON'T FORGET THAT I HAVE THIS REMOTE DETONATOR!
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY WITH IT THIS TIME, SIN-EATER!
I WAS PREPARED TO DESTROY MYSELF TO DO THE LORD'S WORK--
--BUT NOW I SEE THAT I AM NEEDED TO CARRY ON... TO DO MORE FOR THE GREATER GLORY!
CARRY ON. THAT'S WHAT HE DOES, ALL RIGHT! WHAT HE NEEDS IS--
HE LEFT BEHIND HIS BAG OF TRICKS!
BIG MISTAKE!

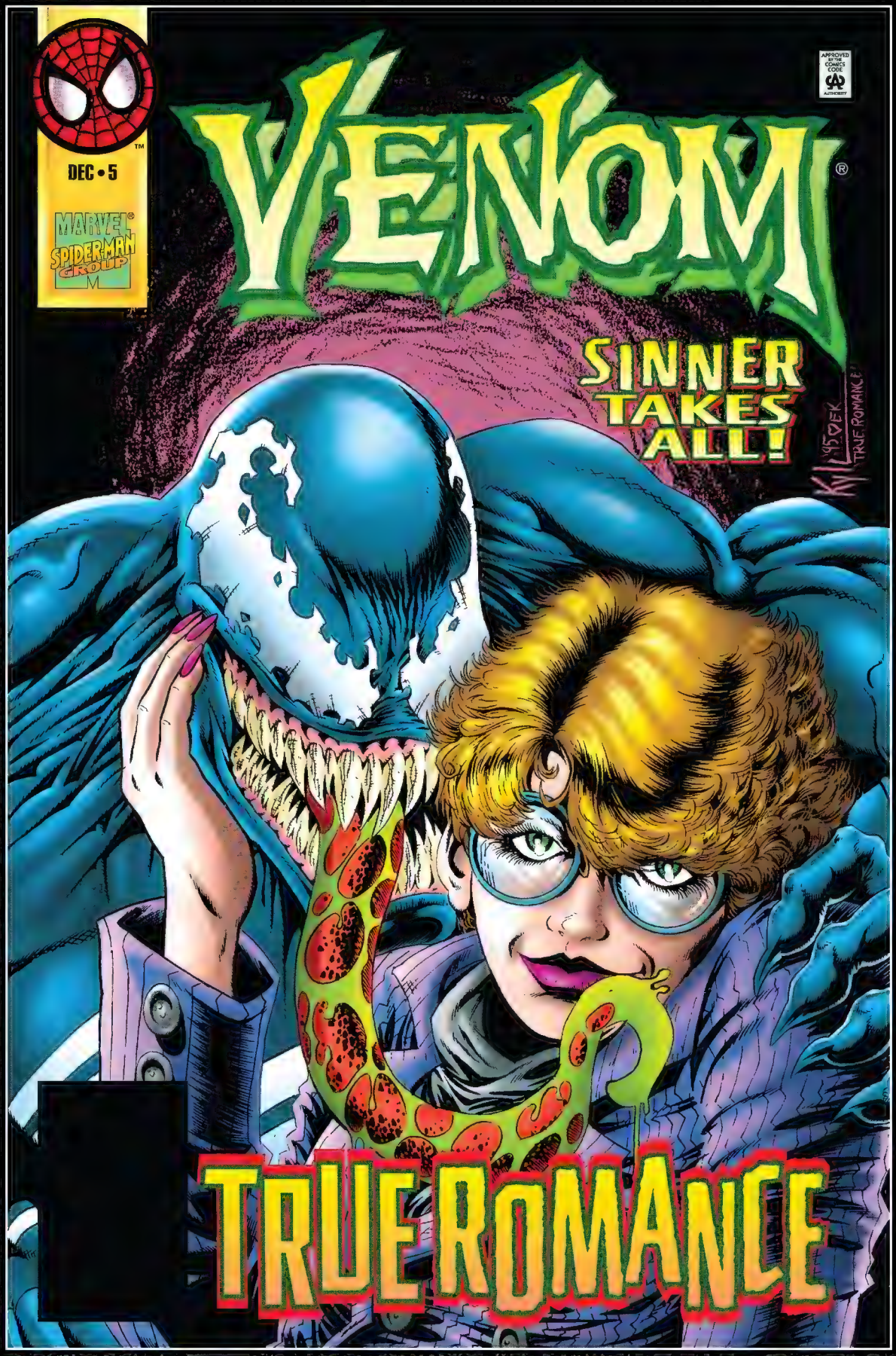
...IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SIN-EATER'S DEMANDS, THE BURGLAR ALARM COMPANY VAN HAS BEEN BACKED UP TO THE FRONT DOOR OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE...
...WE CAN ASSUME THAT THE DERANGED KILLER IS ENTERING THE VEHICLE BY ITS REAR DOORS WITH HIS HOSTAGE, OFFICER MOORE.
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, MOORE.
WE HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF ONE MORE PIECE OF BUSINESS...
P-PLEASE-- DON'T SHOOT ME--
FRAGILE
HOLD YOUR FIRE, BOYS! HE'S GOT ONE OF OUR OWN IN THERE!

HE'S ROLLING OUT THE VAN!!
I'VE GOT HIM DEAD IN MY SIGHTS!! SHOULD I DROP HIM??
HOLD YOUR FIRE!! HE'S GOT THAT SHOTGUN RIGHT TO MOORE'S HEAD!!
HEADS UP, SIN-EATER!
--DITCHING YOUR HOSTAGE--
THAT WAS AN INEXPLICABLE DUMB MOVE--

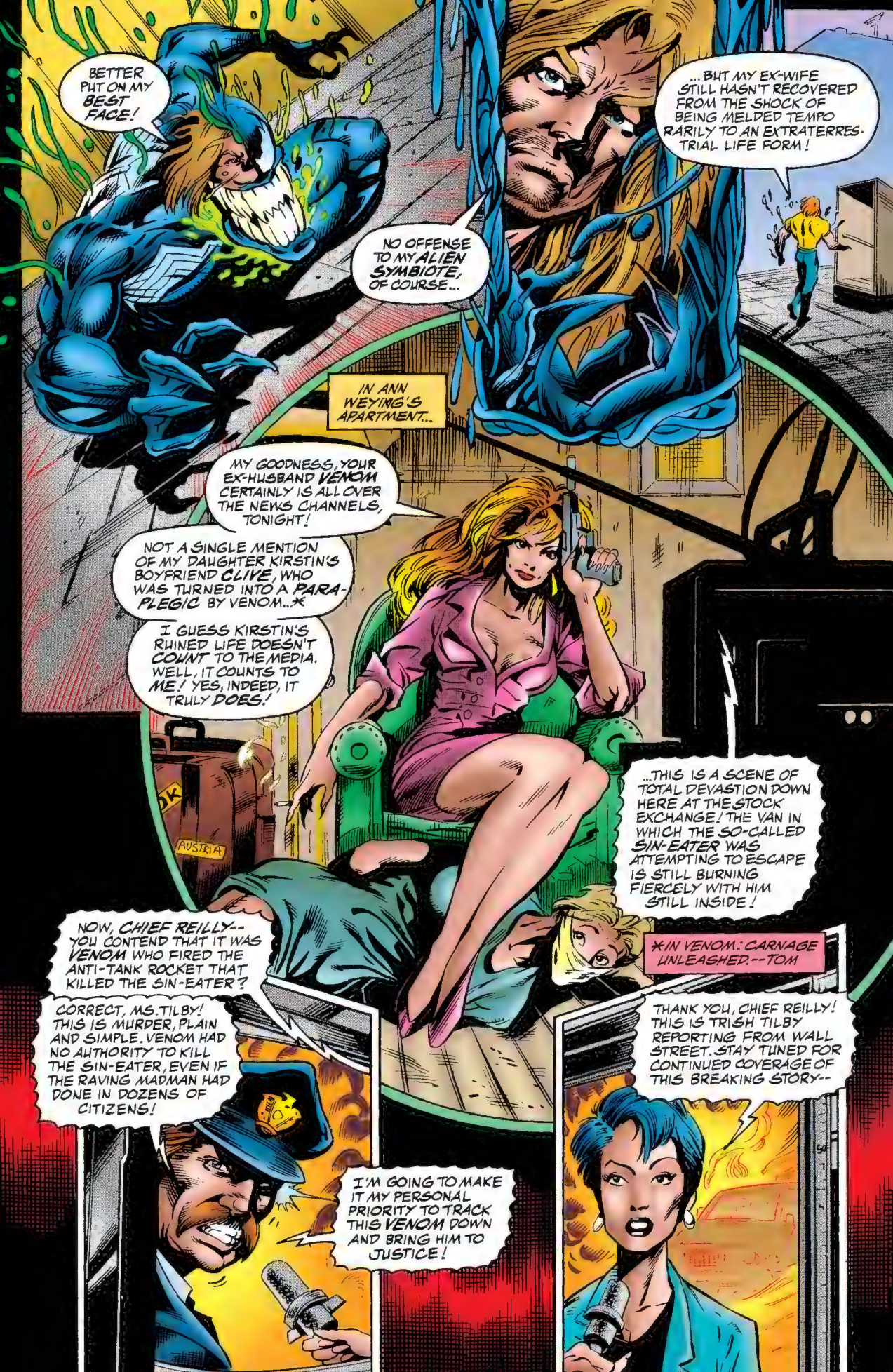
--HE WAS THE ONLY THING THAT WAS KEEPING YOU ALIVE!!
FOOOOOSH!
BA-THOO
OOOOM!
GET DOWN, MISS TILBY!!
SOMEBODY NAIL VENOM!! DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!!

RESCIND THAT ORDER--!
THERE ARE TOO MANY WINDOWS UP THERE! WE CAN'T CONTROL THE COLLATERAL DAMAGE!
THAT'S RIGHT!
WE WOULDN'T WANT ANY INNOCENTS GETTING INJURED OR KILLED, NOW, WOULD WE?
SO MUCH FOR OTHER PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS!
WE NEED TO LOOK AFTER OUR OWN--!
TIME TO LOOK IN ON MY EX-WIFE, ANN WEYING!

...YOU SAW IT HERE LIVE, FOLKS! THE HORRIBLE FLAMING DEATH OF THE MAN WHO CALLED HIMSELF THE NEW SIN-EATER!
THE FATAL ROCKET WAS FIRED BY VENOM, WHO HAS ELUDED CAPTURE AND MADE HIS WAY OVER THE POLICE CORDON BY TAKING TO THE ROOFTOPS--
VENOM GOT AWAY!
THAT MEANS HE'LL BE COMING HERE TO CHECK UP ON HIS SWEETIE PIE!
THEY WON'T BE SENDING MORE COPS TO COVER THIS BUILDING BECAUSE THEY ALREADY SENT TWO DETECTIVES TO TAKE YOU AWAY TO A SAFE HOUSE!
SO, WE'LL JUST SIT HERE AND WAIT FOR YOUR NICE EX-HUBBY TO STEP INTO THE PARLOR AND WE'LL GIVE HIM A NICE BIG SURPRISE!
STAY TUNED FOR MORE UPDATES AS THE STORY DEVELOPS. THIS IS TRISH TILBY AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE, SIGNING OFF--
TO BE CONCLUDED!

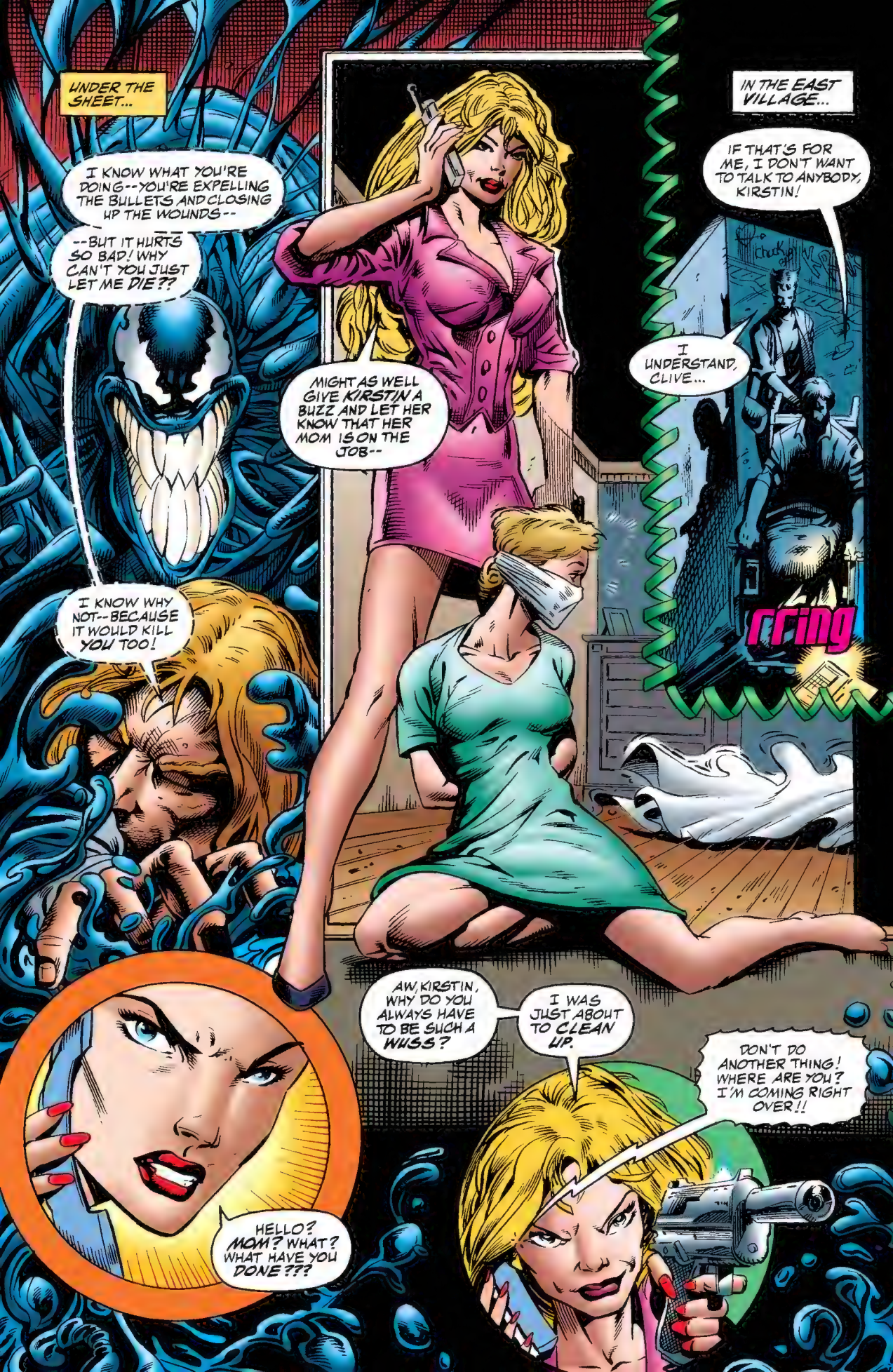

DEC • 5
MARVEL SPIDER-MAN GROUP
VENOM
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SINNER TAKES ALL!
TRUE ROMANCE

WELL, AS WE USED TO SAY IN THE NEWSPAPER BIZ, "WE PUT THAT STORY TO BED!"
QUITE A FITTING END TO SIN-EATER, GETTING BLOWN TO KINGDOM COME!*
SO MUCH FOR MAKING THINGS RIGHT FOR THE REST OF THE WORLD...
...NOW, TO TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN BUSINESS-- BY CHECKING UP ON ANN!
LARRY HAMA SCRIPT
TED HALSTED PENCILS
RALPH CABRERA & JIMMY PALMIOTTI INKS
TOM SMITH COLORING
KEN LOPEZ LETTERING
TOM BREVOORT EDITOR
BOB BUDIANSKY EDITOR IN CHIEF
*LAST ISSUE. --TOM
A TIME TO KILL, AND A TIME TO HEAL


BETTER PUT ON MY BEST FACE!
NO OFFENSE TO MY ALIEN SYMBIOTE, OF COURSE...
...BUT MY EX-WIFE STILL HASN'T RECOVERED FROM THE SHOCK OF BEING MELDED TEMPORARILY TO AN EXTRATERRESTRIAL LIFE FORM!
IN ANN WEYING'S APARTMENT...
MY GOODNESS, YOUR EX-HUSBAND VENOM CERTAINLY IS ALL OVER THE NEWS CHANNELS, TONIGHT!
NOT A SINGLE MENTION OF MY DAUGHTER KIRSTIN'S BOYFRIEND CLIVE, WHO WAS TURNED INTO A PARAPLEGIC BY VENOM...*
I GUESS KIRSTIN'S RUINED LIFE DOESN'T COUNT TO THE MEDIA. WELL, IT COUNTS TO ME! YES, INDEED, IT TRULY DOES!
AUSTRIA
...THIS IS A SCENE OF TOTAL DEVASTION DOWN HERE AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE! THE VAN IN WHICH THE SO-CALLED SIN-EATER WAS ATTEMPTING TO ESCAPE IS STILL BURNING FIERCELY WITH HIM STILL INSIDE!
*IN VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED.--TOM
NOW, CHIEF REILLY-- YOU CONTEND THAT IT WAS VENOM WHO FIRED THE ANTI-TANK ROCKET THAT KILLED THE SIN-EATER?
CORRECT, MS. TILBY! THIS IS MURDER, PLAIN AND SIMPLE. VENOM HAD NO AUTHORITY TO KILL THE SIN-EATER, EVEN IF THE RAVING MADMAN HAD DONE IN DOZENS OF CITIZENS!
I'M GOING TO MAKE IT MY PERSONAL PRIORITY TO TRACK THIS VENOM DOWN AND BRING HIM TO JUSTICE!
THANK YOU, CHIEF REILLY! THIS IS TRISH TILBY REPORTING FROM WALL STREET. STAY TUNED FOR CONTINUED COVERAGE OF THIS BREAKING STORY--

THE STORY IS GOING TO CONCLUDE RIGHT HERE, TRISH!
IF VENOM REALLY GOT AWAY, HE SHOULD BE ON HIS WAY TO SEE HIS NICE LITTLE EX AND SOOTHE HER TROUBLED BROW-- AND WHEN HE SHOWS UP--
KNOCK! KNOCK!
ANN! IT'S ME--
--BINGO!
IF I WERE AN AMATEUR, I'D OPEN THE DOOR AND VENOM WOULD JUST DEFLECT THE BULLETS AS I SHOT THEM AT HIM--
PHUD! PHUD! PHUD! PHUD! PHUD! PHUD!
UHHH!!
--BUT I HAPPEN TO BE A PRO!

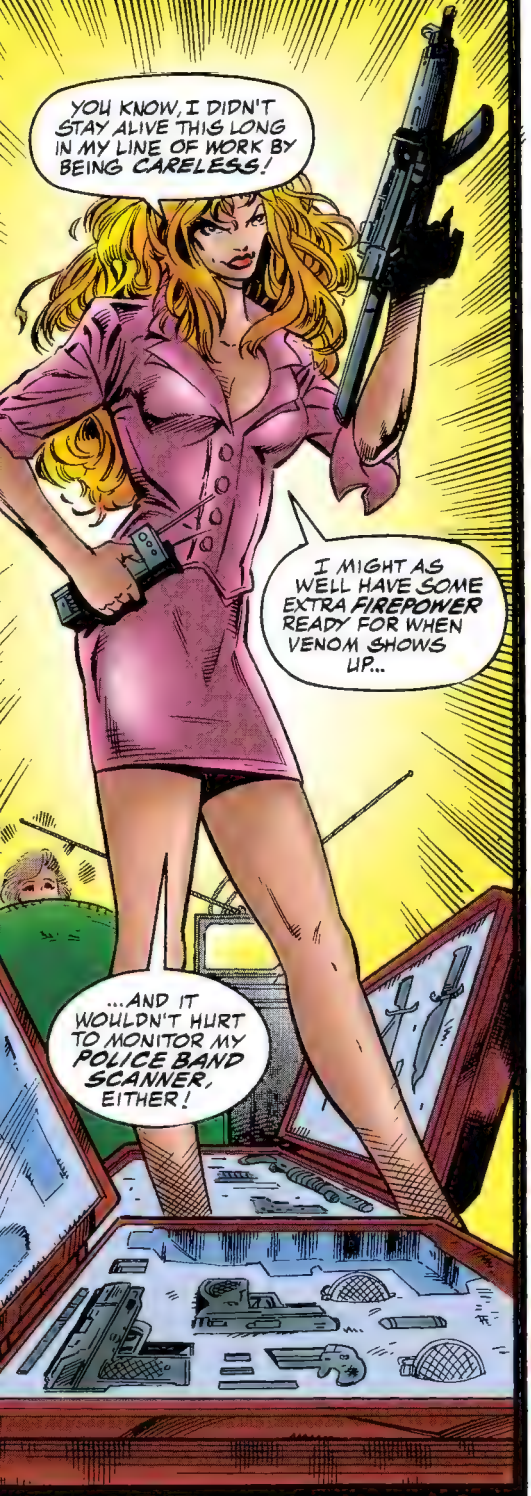
THAT WAS A LEAD PIPE CINCH--
HUH?! WHO THE HECK ARE YOU?
HEH, HEH. GETTIN' A LITTLE ON THE SIDE, EH, ANN?
YOU KNOW HE'S NOT A BAD LOOKER--
--I MEAN, HE WASN'T A BAD LOOKER! HA! I MADE A FUNNY!
I'LL JUST PUT HIM IN A NICE ROW WITH THE TWO COPS I BLEW AWAY EARLIER AND PUT THIS SHEET OVER ALL OF THEM SO THEY DON'T OFFEND OUR DELICATE SENSIBILITIES!
NOW, THAT WASN'T SO DIFFICULT AT ALL, WAS IT?
I'VE EVEN GOT TIME TO RELAX A BIT BEFORE I BUMP OFF THE WITNESS--
7 LIVE
GNNNG!!
SORRY ABOUT THAT ANN. GOTTA KEEP THINGS TIDY, YOU KNOW! CAN'T LEAVE ANY BLOODY GLOVES AROUND!
...AS YOU CAN SEE, THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IS STILL TRYING TO GET THE FLAMES UNDER CONTROL...

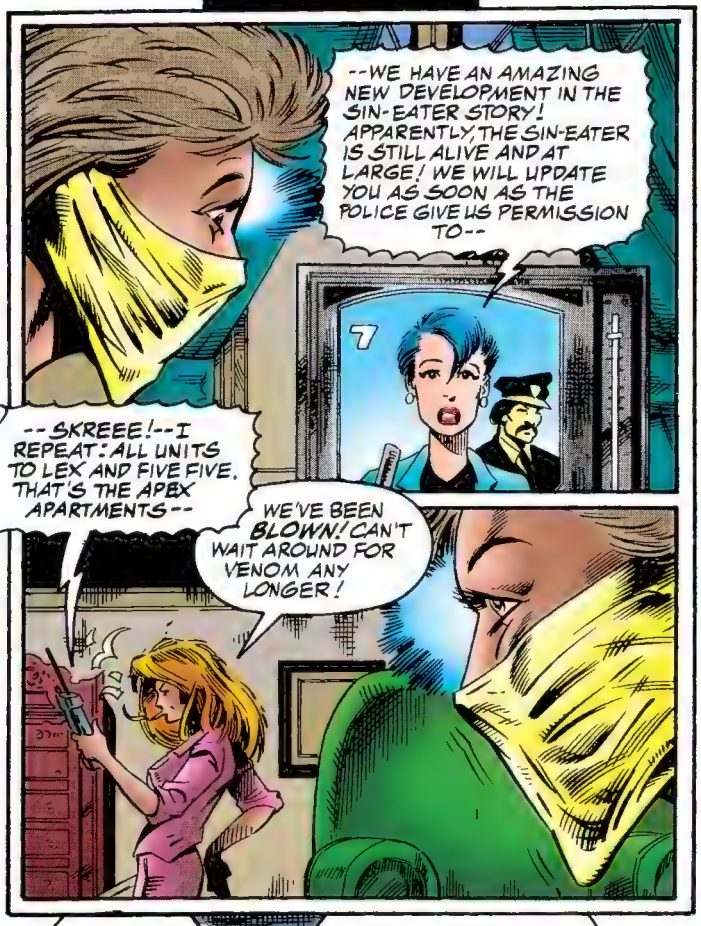

UNDER THE SHEET...
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING--YOU'RE EXPELLING THE BULLETS AND CLOSING UP THE WOUNDS--
--BUT IT HURTS SO BAD! WHY CAN'T YOU JUST LET ME DIE??
I KNOW WHY NOT--BECAUSE IT WOULD KILL YOU TOO!
MIGHT AS WELL GIVE KIRSTIN A BUZZ AND LET HER KNOW THAT HER MOM IS ON THE JOB--
IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
IF THAT'S FOR ME, I DON'T WANT TO TALK TO ANYBODY, KIRSTIN!
I UNDERSTAND, CLIVE...
rring
AW, KIRSTIN, WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO BE SUCH A WUSS?
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO CLEAN UP.
DON'T DO ANOTHER THING! WHERE ARE YOU? I'M COMING RIGHT OVER!!
HELLO? MOM? WHAT? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE???

AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE...
CFD
THAT WAS A PRETTY CLOSE CALL, OFFICER MOORE! YOU WERE LUCKY THE SIN-EATER DECIDED TO KICK YOU OUT OF THE VAN JUST BEFORE IT BLEW UP!
MY AIDE WILL DRIVE YOU BACK TO HEADQUARTERS-- YOU SURE YOU DON'T NEED TO TALK TO THE POST-TRAUMA SHRINK?
CHIEF, THE TWO PLAINCLOTHES DETECTIVES I SENT OVER TO ANN WEYING'S APARTMENT NEVER REPORTED IN ON THE FM OR THE LAND LINE.
I GUESS THAT ASSIGNMENT IS KIND OF MOOT NOW, ANYWAY--
NO, THE ASSIGNMENT IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS EVER!
VENOM IS LIKELY TO SHOW UP THERE! YOU HAD BETTER BUZZ UP THERE AND BRING THOSE TWO UP TO SPEED--
SAY, MOORE--YOU DON'T MIND MAKING A LITTLE DETOUR, DO YOU?
I THOUGHT NOT! YOU'RE A GOOD COP, MOORE!
YOU JUST RELAX IN THE BACK, MOORE--THIS SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG AT ALL!

WHY CAN'T YOU CLOSE DOWN MY PAIN CENTERS, LIKE YOU DID FOR ANN?
DAMAGE TOO MASSIVE? HOW BAD WAS IT?
NO, I GUESS I DON'T WANT TO KNOW!
LOOK AT ALL THAT THRASHING! THAT CERTAINLY ISN'T RIGOR MORTIS SETTING IN!
YOUR BOYFRIEND MUST STILL BE ALIVE--
--WELL, HASTA LA VISTA, BABY!
PHUD
PHUD
PHUD
PHUD
DID THAT UPSET YOU, ANN?
AWWWW, AIN'T THAT TOO BAD!
THWAPP!

AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE...
CHIEF REILLY! YOU WANNA COME OVER HERE AND CHECK OUT THE BODY IN THE VAN?
THIS GUY WAS HANDCUFFED TO THE WHEEL AND HIS SHOTGUN WAS UNLOADED...
THEN THIS MUST HAVE BEEN OFFICER MOORE, THE HOSTAGE!
THE SIN-EATER MUST HAVE CHANGED CLOTHES WITH THE COP! THAT PSYCHO IS STILL ALIVE AND HE RODE OUT OF HERE AND--
--GOOD LORD! I SENT HIM RIGHT TO ANN WEYING'S APARTMENT!!
--ALL UNITS, OFFICER IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE AT THE APEX APARTMENT TOWERS ON LEX CROSS FIVE FIVE!
HEY! THAT'S WHERE WE'RE GOING! I WONDER WHO'S IN TROUBLE?
YOU ARE, CENTHRION!
WHAT??


YOU KNOW, I DIDN'T STAY ALIVE THIS LONG IN MY LINE OF WORK BY BEING CARELESS!
I MIGHT AS WELL HAVE SOME EXTRA FIREPOWER READY FOR WHEN VENOM SHOWS UP...
...AND IT WOULDN'T HURT TO MONITOR MY POLICE BAND SCANNER, EITHER!


--WE HAVE AN AMAZING NEW DEVELOPMENT IN THE SIN-EATER STORY! APPARENTLY, THE SIN-EATER IS STILL ALIVE AND AT LARGE! WE WILL UPDATE YOU AS SOON AS THE POLICE GIVE US PERMISSION TO--
--SKREEE!--I REPEAT: ALL UNITS TO LEX AND FIVE FIVE. THAT'S THE APEX APARTMENTS--
WE'VE BEEN BLOWN! CAN'T WAIT AROUND FOR VENOM ANY LONGER!

GOTTA BOOK OUT, ANN!
IT'S BEEN REAL--WHAT CAN I SAY? DON'T TAKE ANY WOODEN NICKELS!

WHEW!
YOU DIDN'T THINK I FORGOT TO POP YOU, DID YOU?
NOOO!
YOU LEAVE HER ALONE, YOU SADISTIC WITCH!
YOU--YOU'RE VENOM! DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU WITHOUT THE OUTFIT!
YOU SURE ARE THE DURABLE ONE!
LOOK UP THE BARREL AND SAY "CHEESE"!
BUT IT JUST SO HAPPENS I'M LOADED FOR BEAR WITH HIGH VELOCITY 9mm ARMOR-PIERCING AMMO!

WOW! YOU SURE CAN TAKE A LICKIN' AND KEEP ON TICKIN'!
I'M GONNA HAVE TO RELOAD AND EMPTY ANOTHER WHOLE CLIP INTO YOU!
BUT AT LEAST I HAVEN'T BEEN WASTING MY TIME HERE!
YOU HAVE TO LEAVE ME AND GO TO ANN!
SHUNK
I'VE GOT PLENTY OF AMMO!
WE ONLY HAVE ONE CHANCE!
DON'T ARGUE WITH ME!! JUST DO IT!!!

KA-SHUNG!
DOES AN ANN WEYING LIVE HERE?
. WHAT'S IT TO YOU, BUDDY?
SPECIAL AIDE TO CHIEF REILLY, NYPD.
GO RIGHT ON UP! THERE'S TWO OTHER COPS UP THERE ALREADY!
HEY! AREN'T YOU GONNA CALL IN ABOUT THIS HYDRANT?
HE LEFT THE MOTOR RUNNING AND THE LIGHTS FLASHING!
LEAST I CAN DO IS TURN OFF THE--
--GOOD LORD!!

THAT'S SOME NEAT TRICK YOU PULL WITH THAT COSTUME, VENOM--MUST SAVE ON THE CLEANING BILLS, HUH?
WELL, YOUR WARDROBE ISN'T GOING TO SAVE YOU FROM GETTING WHAT YOU DESERVE FOR RUINING MY DAUGHTER'S LIFE!
YOU'RE GONNA--
HUH?
THWAMM!
ANN--?

MORE THAN JUST ANN!!

WE ARE GREATER THAN OUR PARTS!!

RATATAT

YEAH, THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE GONNA BE--

--PARTS!

STICKS AND STONES CAN'T BREAK OUR BONES, AND BULLETS AREN'T ALL THAT EFFECTIVE EITHER!!

SCRUNCH

AND THIS SURE DOESN'T TICKLE, DOES IT?

THWAMM!

IT STILL MUST SMART TO GET SHOT IN THE FACE!!

RATATATATAT!

WE CAN TAKE AN AWFUL LOT OF PUNISHMENT--

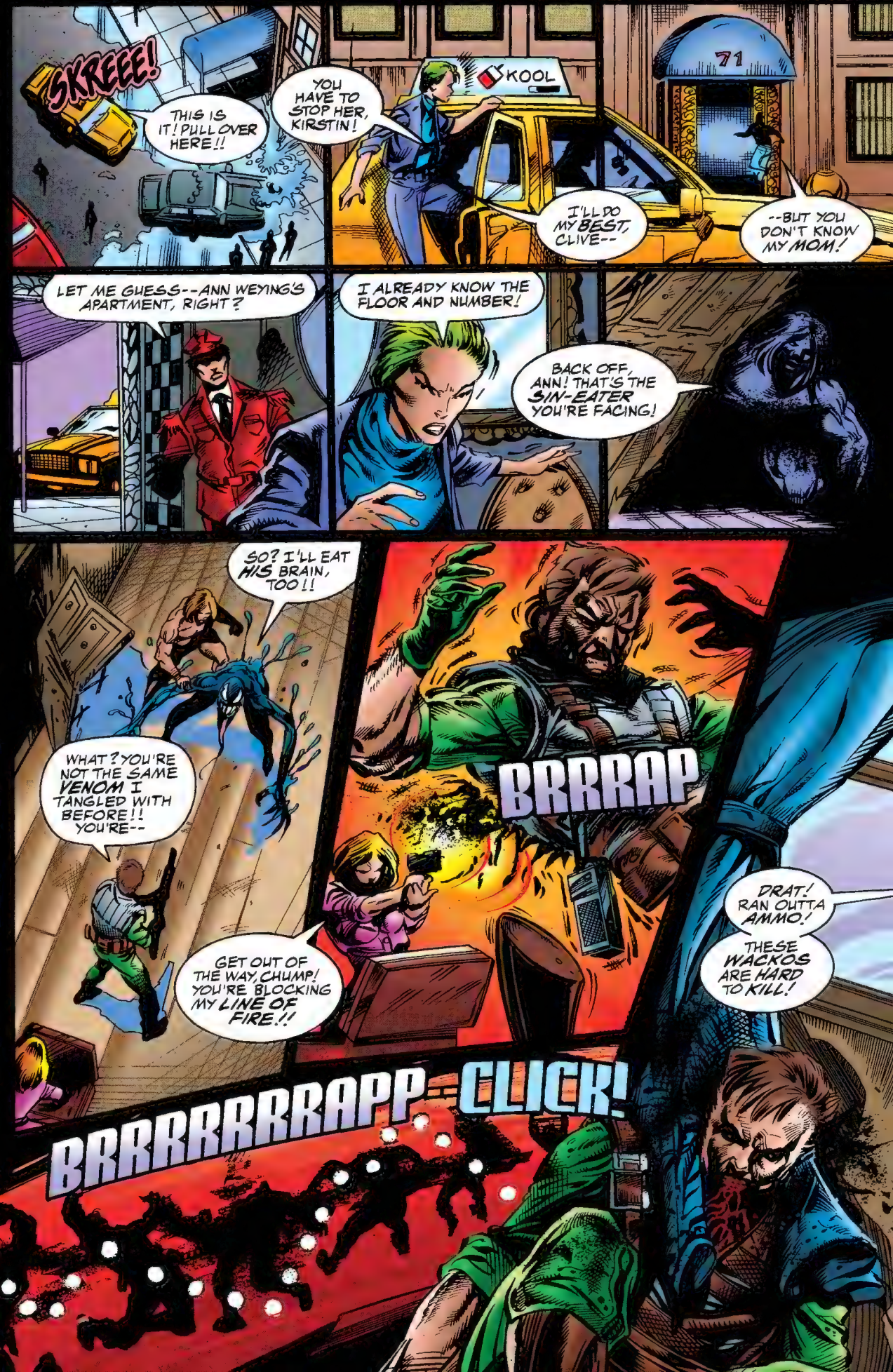
--AS LONG AS WE GET A CHANCE TO EAT YOUR BRAIN, YOU SLEAZY TRASHOID FASHION MONGREL!!!

ANN! DON'T DO IT!!

SLAMM!

--A LOT MORE THAN YOU CAN DISH OUT--

YOU BUTT OUT OF THIS!!
WHAMM
WHEN I WHET MY FLASHING SWORD, AND MY HAND TAKES HOLD ON JUDGMENT...
YOU DON'T SAY!!
KRASH!
...I WILL TAKE VENGEANCE ON MY ADVERSARIES, AND WILL REPAY THOSE WHO HATE ME! DEUTERONOMY 32:41
BLAM!
THAT'S THE WORD OF THE LORD, DEMON!!
KA-
WAY TO GO, SONNY!


SKREEE!
THIS IS IT! PULL OVER HERE!!
YOU HAVE TO STOP HER, KIRSTIN!
KOOL
71
I'LL DO MY BEST, CLIVE--
--BUT YOU DON'T KNOW MY MOM!
LET ME GUESS--ANN WEYING'S APARTMENT, RIGHT?
I ALREADY KNOW THE FLOOR AND NUMBER!
BACK OFF, ANN! THAT'S THE SIN-EATER YOU'RE FACING!
SO? I'LL EAT HIS BRAIN, TOO!!
WHAT? YOU'RE NOT THE SAME VENOM I TANGLED WITH BEFORE!! YOU'RE--
GET OUT OF THE WAY, CHUMP! YOU'RE BLOCKING MY LINE OF FIRE!!
BRRRAP
DRAT! RAN OUTTA AMMO!
THESE WACKOS ARE HARD TO KILL!
BRRRRRRRRAPP--CLICK!

ARE YOU TALKING TO ANN OR THE OTHER?
WHAT HAVE WE HERE? A BRAND NEW POLICE SHOTGUN!
PUT THAT DOWN--!
YOU HAD BETTER COME BACK TO ME THIS INSTANT, OR ELSE!
NO, CHUMP-- IT'S YOU WHO'S GONNA GET PUT DOWN!!
EDDIE, NOOOOO!
KA BLAMM!
THWACK!
YES, WELL, THAT WOULD CERTAINLY PROVIDE THE REQUISITE HEAT AND NOISE TO RAIN ON MY PARADE!!
WHAT DO I NEED HERE, A TACTICAL NUKE?
YOUR KID IS A REAL PEACH, LADY--

--HOW CAN SHE HAVE SUCH AN UTTER LOW-LIFE FOR A MOTHER?
SHE TAKES AFTER HER FATHER! HE WAS A WEAK-WILLED DREAMER, TOO!
MOM!!
I TOLD CLIVE AND HE WAS HORRIFIED THAT ANYBODY WOULD COMMIT AN ACT OF VIOLENCE FOR HIS SAKE, NO MATTER WHAT!
HE'S RIGHT, MOM-- YOU CAN'T ANSWER VIOLENCE WITH VIOLENCE ALL THE TIME, OR ELSE YOU LOSE YOUR SOUL!!
YOU'VE ALREADY LOST YOUR SOULS...
...BUT I CAN SAVE YOU ALL!
I AM ABOUT TO ENTER THE KINGDOM, AND I CAN TAKE YOU ALL WITH ME!!
IT'S A BOMB!
beep
--LET ME MAKE IT RIGHT!!
KE-RASH!
THIS IS ALL MY FAULT--!!

KIRSTIN!!!
I LET CLIVE FALL--
GOTCHA!!
--I'M NOT GOING TO LET IT HAPPEN TO YOU!!
HE SHALL STRIKE THE EARTH WITH THE ROD OF HIS MOUTH...
...AND WITH THE BREATH OF HIS LIPS--
YOU'RE NOT GETTING OFF AT THIS STOP, SIN-EATER!!
THWACK!
--HE
SHALL
KILL
THE
WICKED!

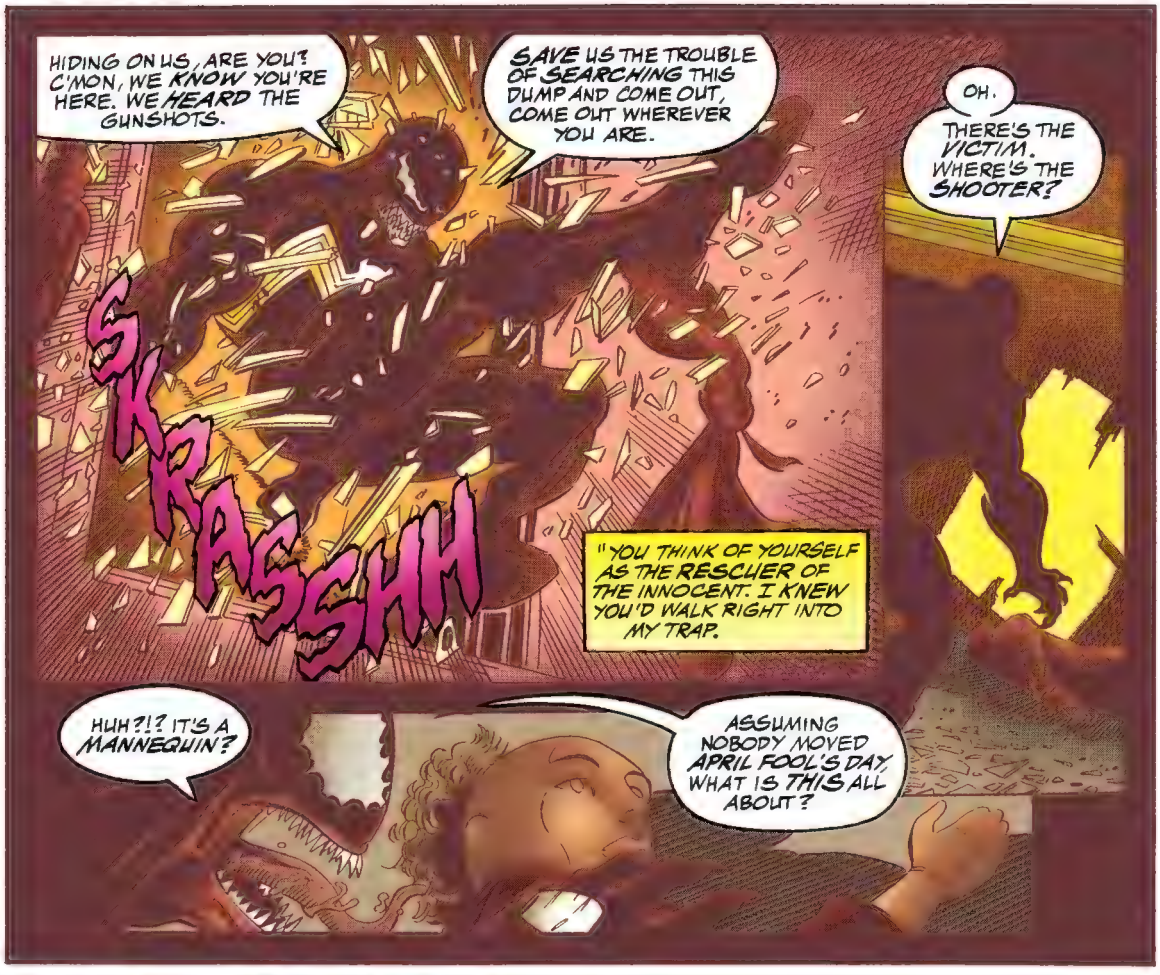
CLIVE-- I'M--
SORRY? YOU CAN SHOVE YOUR APOLOGY! JUST BECAUSE I DON'T BELIEVE IN REVENGE DOESN'T MEAN I CAN FORGIVE YOU!
AH YES! SO MUCH FOR HAPPY ENDINGS!
THWAMM!
NY W7147 NEW YORK

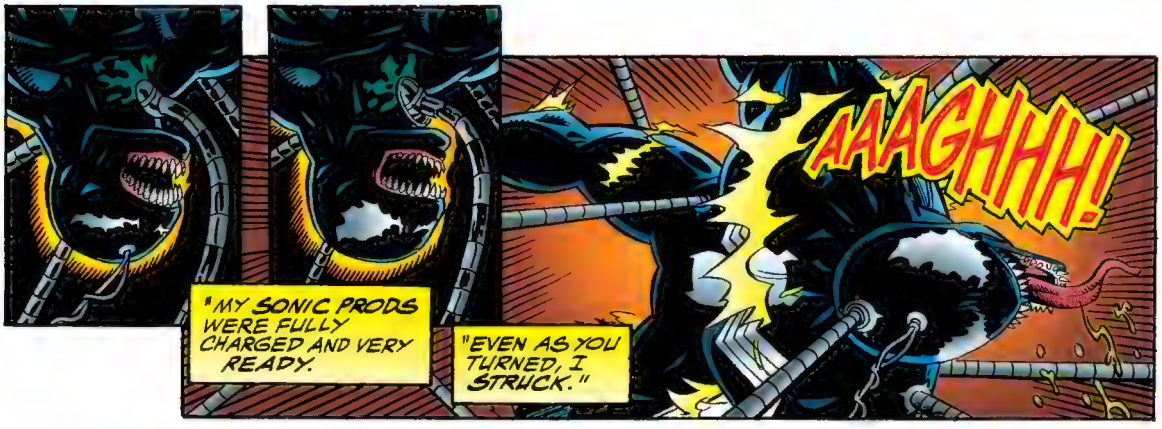
SHE'S SAFE!!
NOW, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS SHOOT MY WAY OUT OF HERE--!
DON'T COUNT ON IT!!
CRASH!
THAT VENOM--
--WHAT AN ENIGMA!!
POLICE LINE DO
ARRRRGH! WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH ME??
I JUST BRING PAIN AND SUFFERING TO EVERYONE I KNOW!!
NEXT: ALONG CAME A

SYMBIOTE

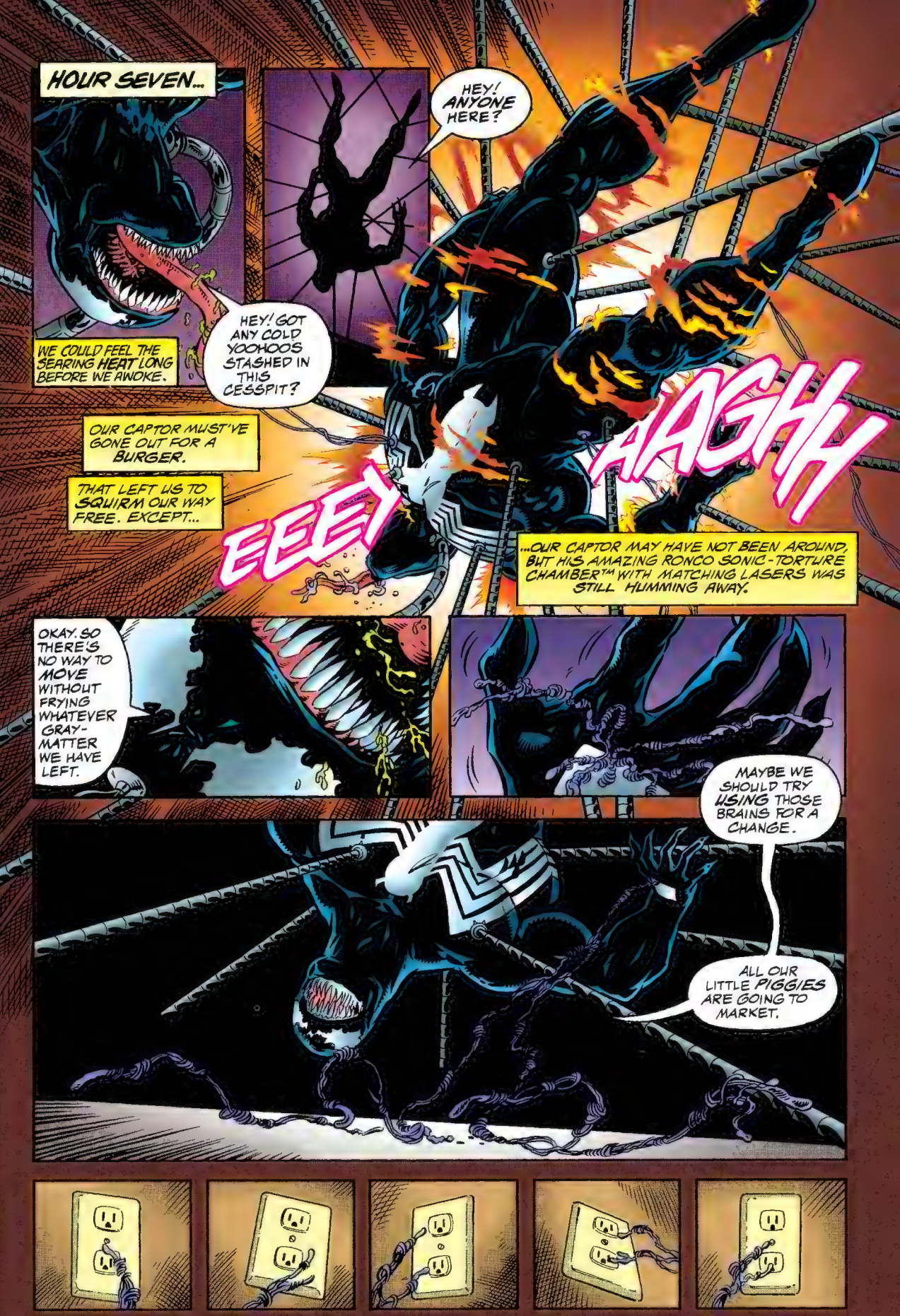
HOUR FOUR...
WHEN WE WOKE, WE THOUGHT WE WERE ON FIRE.
EEEYAAAAGGGHHHH
KEN LOPEZ
LETTERER
MARK BERNARDO
COLORIST
GLENN GREENBERG
ASST. EDITOR
TOM BREVOORT
EDITOR
BOB BUDIANSKY
EDITOR IN CHIEF
OUR SKIN BURNED LIKE OUR BLOOD WAS ACID BUBBLING HOT TO THE SURFACE, MELTING FLESH AWAY FROM BONE.
WE THOUGHT WE WERE STILL ASLEEP, THAT THIS WAS SOME TERRIBLE NIGHTMARE. BUT WE WERE WRONG; IT WAS WORSE...
YOU'RE AWAKE, EDDIE. THAT'S GOOD, SO VERY GOOD. I WANTED YOU AWAKE, YOU KNOW.
IT BECOMES PART OF THE PLEASURE KNOWING YOU ARE EXPERIENCING SO MUCH PAIN.
AND THERE IS GOING TO BE SO MUCH PAIN.

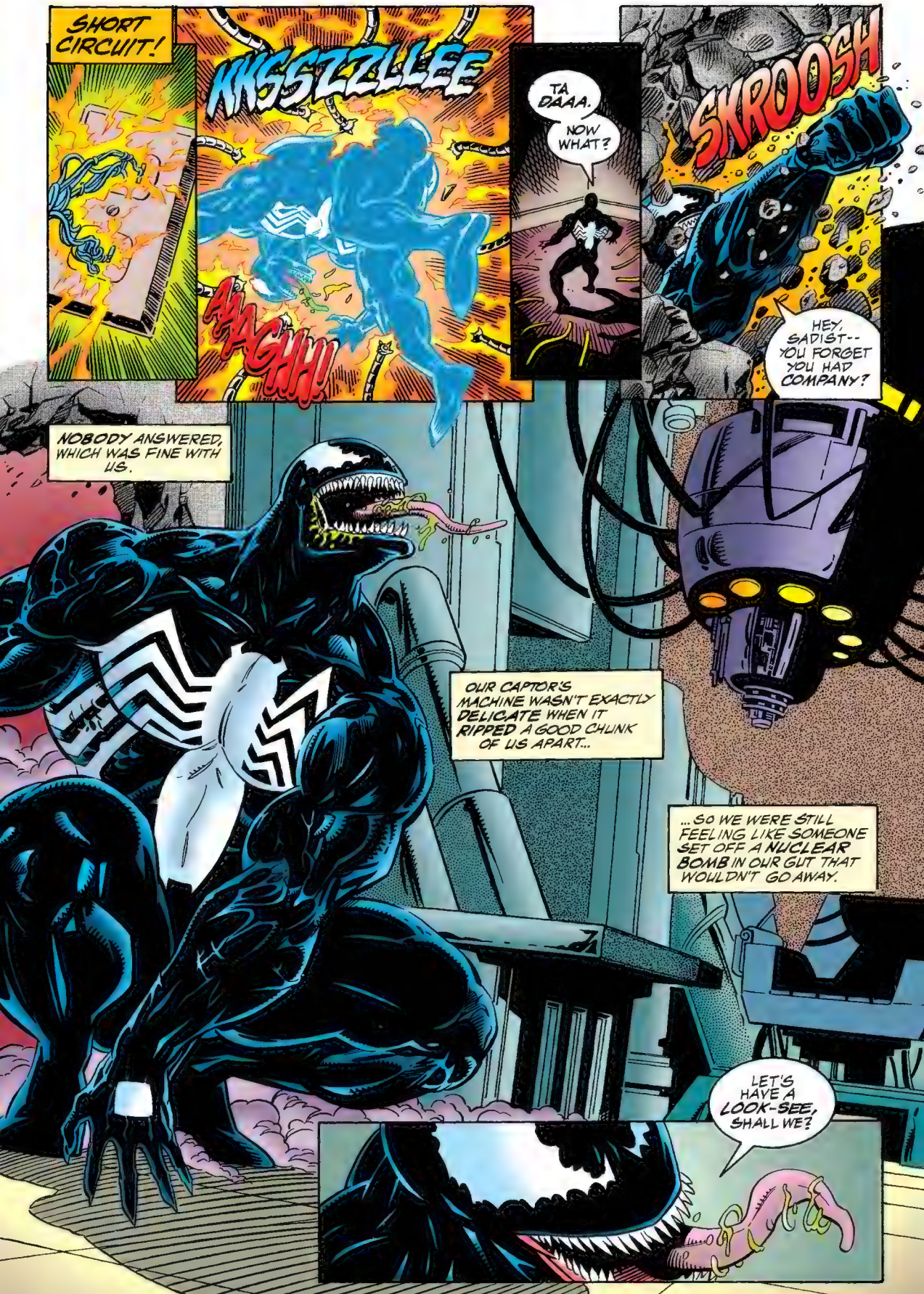
I WANT YOUR SYMBIOTE, EDDIE, THAT ALIEN... THING THAT GIVES YOU LIFE AND POWER.
BUT IT WON'T COME WILLINGLY, SO I HAVE TO REMOVE IT.
HARSHLY.
THIS IS NOTHING MORE THAN A TICKLE IN THE RIBS. SILLY US-- WE THOUGHT YOU WERE A SERIOUS PSYCHO.
I DO HOPE YOU FIND YOURSELF AMUSING. ONE OF US SHOULD.
WON'T BE LONG NOW, A FEW HOURS AT MOST.
THEN I CAN BEGIN THE DISSECTION.
I DO HOPE WHAT MAKES THE SYMBIOTE SO POWERFUL ALSO DOESN'T MAKE ONE AS... RIDICULOUSLY STUPID AS YOU APPARENTLY ARE.
"YOU WERE SO BLIND TO BEING FOLLOWED. DAY IN AND DAY OUT I OBSERVED YOUR ACTIONS.
"YOU NEVER DISAPPOINTED ME, EDDIE.
"LIKE THE SWALLOWS TO CAPISTRANO, YOU ALWAYS RETURNED TO ONE NEIGHBORHOOD... ONE BLOCK.
BAM BAM BAM
"I KNEW HOW TO TAKE THAT INFORMATION...
"...AND USE IT TO LURE YOU TO ME."
IT FIGURES. JUST WHEN WE THOUGHT WE WERE OUT FOR THE NIGHT...
...THEY PULL US BACK IN.


HIDING ON US, ARE YOU? C'MON, WE KNOW YOU'RE HERE. WE HEARD THE GUNSHOTS.
SAVE US THE TROUBLE OF SEARCHING THIS DUMP AND COME OUT, COME OUT WHEREVER YOU ARE.
OH. THERE'S THE VICTIM. WHERE'S THE SHOOTER?
SKRASHH
"YOU THINK OF YOURSELF AS THE RESCUER OF THE INNOCENT. I KNEW YOU'D WALK RIGHT INTO MY TRAP.
HUH?!? IT'S A MANNEQUIN?
ASSUMING NOBODY MOVED APRIL FOOL'S DAY. WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?


"MY SONIC PRODS WERE FULLY CHARGED AND VERY READY.
"EVEN AS YOU TURNED, I STRUCK."
AAAGHHH!

YOU MAY BE WONDERING WHY YOU REMAINED VENOM EVEN WHILE YOU WERE UNCONSCIOUS. BLAME ME, EDDIE.
AS A HUMAN YOU ARE USELESS. I NEED THE SYMBIOTE AND MY MACHINES PREVENTED IT FROM RETREATING.
SKRRREEEEEE
NEVERTHELESS, THERE ARE STILL A FEW HOURS TO GO, AND AS I DON'T WANT YOU CAUSING ANY PROBLEMS, I THINK IT'S TIME AGAIN TO SAY--
--GOOD NIGHT!


HOUR SEVEN...
WE COULD FEEL THE SEARING HEAT LONG BEFORE WE AWOKE.
HEY! GOT ANY COLD YOOHOOS STASHED IN THIS CESSPIT?
HEY! ANYONE HERE?
OUR CAPTOR MUST'VE GONE OUT FOR A BURGER.
THAT LEFT US TO SQUIRM OUR WAY FREE. EXCEPT...
EEE!
AAGHH
...OUR CAPTOR MAY HAVE NOT BEEN AROUND, BUT HIS AMAZING RONCO SONIC-TORTURE CHAMBER™ WITH MATCHING LASERS WAS STILL HUMMING AWAY.
OKAY. SO THERE'S NO WAY TO MOVE WITHOUT FRYING WHATEVER GRAY-MATTER WE HAVE LEFT.
MAYBE WE SHOULD TRY USING THOSE BRAINS FOR A CHANGE.
ALL OUR LITTLE PIGGIES ARE GOING TO MARKET.


SHORT CIRCUIT!
KKSSZZLLEE
AAAGHH!
TA DAAA.
NOW WHAT?
SKROOSH
HEY, SADIST-- YOU FORGET YOU HAD COMPANY?
NOBODY ANSWERED, WHICH WAS FINE WITH US.
OUR CAPTOR'S MACHINE WASN'T EXACTLY DELICATE WHEN IT RIPPED A GOOD CHUNK OF US APART...
...SO WE WERE STILL FEELING LIKE SOMEONE SET OFF A NUCLEAR BOMB IN OUR GUT THAT WOULDN'T GO AWAY.
LET'S HAVE A LOOK-SEE, SHALL WE?

EDDIE. UP HERE. UP-STAIRS.
TIME FOR PLAN B.
LET'S SEE--YOU WERE IN THE JOHN WHEN WE ESCAPED, RIGHT?
WE SUPPOSE YOU MAD-SCIENTIST TYPES WOULD HAVE TO GO LIKE THE REST OF US.
WELL, NOW THAT WE'RE FREE, WE'D LIKE TO CONTINUE OUR PLEASANT CONVERSATION WITH YOU--ON OUR TERMS!
WE DIDN'T CARE WHAT WAS WAITING, BUT WE WERE READY.
READY TO RIP THE FLESH FROM HIS FACE AN' FEED ON IT.
SKRUNCHK
IT WAS ALL GLASS, LIKE A GREENHOUSE. IF WE WEREN'T IN NEW YORK YOU'D BE ABLE TO SEE STARS SHINING ABOVE.
HELLO, EDDIE.
SHUT UP, PLEASE. WE NEVER TALK TO OUR DINNER.

BEAUTIFUL NIGHT, ISN'T IT? CRISP, CLEAR, COOL BUT HARDLY COLD. SUCH PERFECTION IS RARE IN NEW YORK.
CAN THE WEATHER-CHANNEL AND SPIN. WE WISH TO SEE WHO WE'RE ABOUT TO GRIND INTO CHUCK.
YOU KNOW, EDDIE, IT TOOK A LOT OF PREPARATION TO BRING YOU HERE.
YOU CERTAINLY GET OFF ON TALKING TO YOURSELF, DON'T YOU?
EVEN THE INFINITESIMAL PERCENTAGE I'VE ALREADY SIPHONED FROM YOUR SYMBIOTE IS CHANGING ME.
I CAN NOW UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU MUST FEEL LIKE. IT'S INVIGORATED ME BEYOND ANYTHING I EVER EXPECTED.
EVEN AS TAKING IT WEAKENED YOU, IT'S PROVIDED ME WITH POWER!
NOW, ONCE AGAIN, VENOM-- GOOD NIGHT!
I WANT TO END WHAT I'VE BEGUN.
WHOOMPH
BUT IT WAS WORTH IT, ALL OF IT.

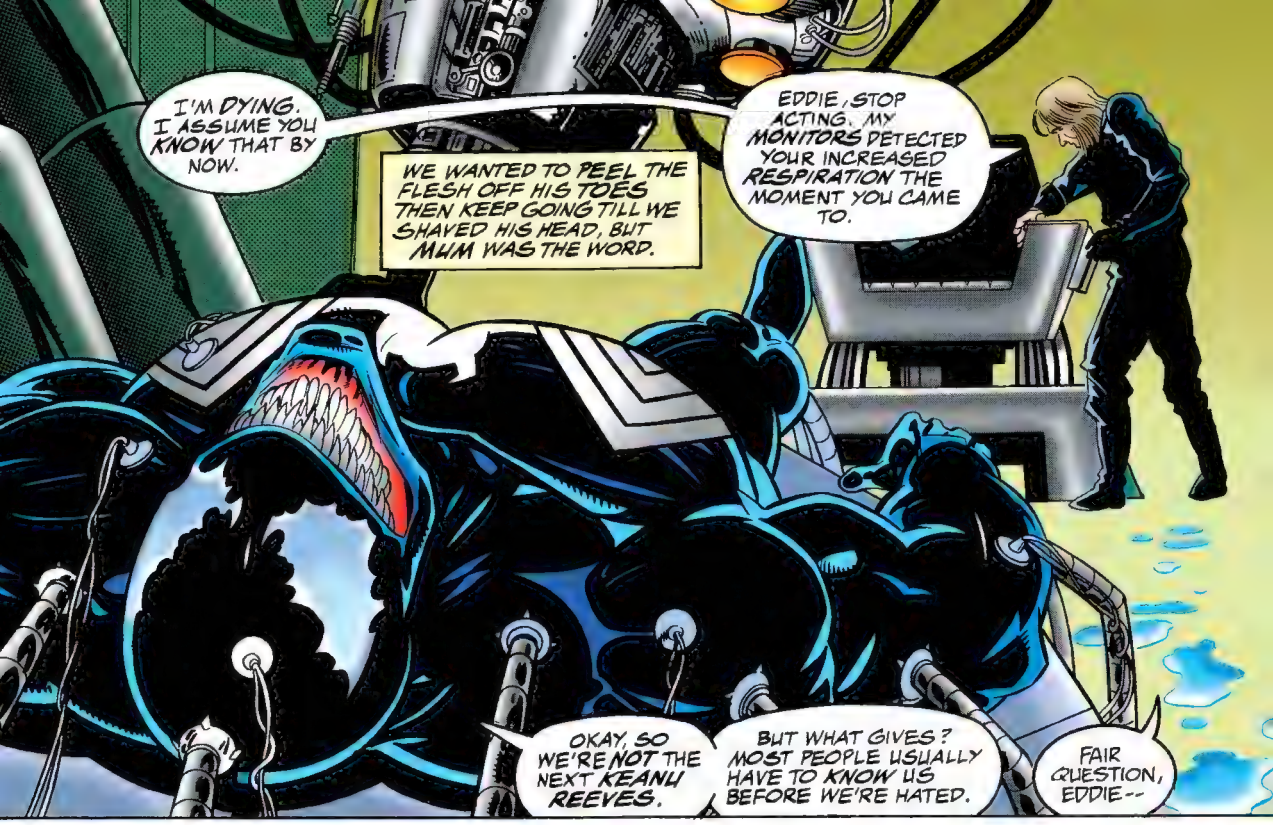
TELL YOU WHAT, LOSER, WE'LL END IT FOR YOU...
...WITH YOUR HEAD SPLATTERED LIKE A MELON AGAINST THE WALL.
WE FIGURED WE'D TAKE HIM OUT FAST, THEN ASK QUESTIONS LATER.
SKRASSHH
WE'RE GOING FOR A TRIP.
ONE WAY!
OOPS. THOUGHT THE HUDSON WAS RIGHT BELOW US.

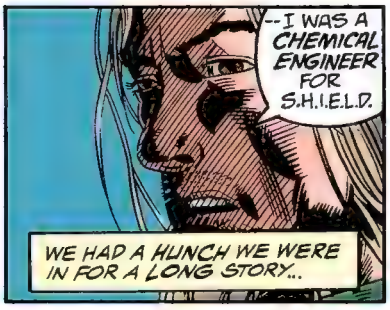
PAL, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.
BUT IF YOU CAN FLY, DO IT--NOW.
WE TWISTED RIGHT AND JUST ABOUT MADE IT.
OUR CAPTOR...
...WASN'T QUITE SO LUCKY.
DON'T KNOW WHY...
...BUT WE'RE SUDDENLY HUNGERING FOR PIZZA!
HUH? YOU'RE FIVE SHADES OF WHITE... LIKE YOU WERE DEAD EVEN BEFORE THE FALL.
WELL, THAT'S NO SKIN OFF OUR FANGS.
LATER...
...LOSER.

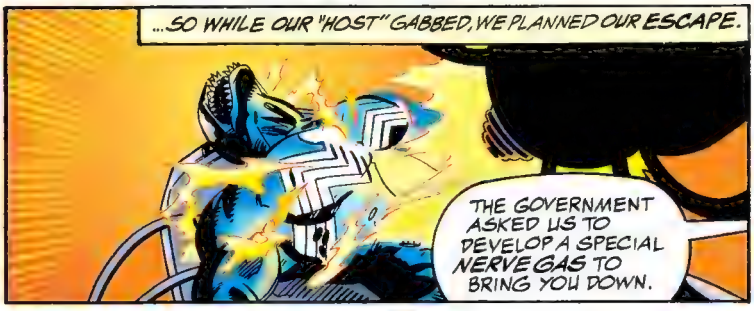
UNNNHHH
HEALING...
IT WORKED...IT WORKS!
I'M STILL WEAK, BUT NOW I KNOW IT WILL ACTUALLY CURE ME.
I NEED IT ALL!
I NEED IT NOW!
SO I NEED MORE.

VENOM!
NAH. CAN'T BE.
BUT IT WAS, AND THE HEAT STILL BURNING IN OUR CHEST FELT LIKE IT WAS ABOUT TO EXPLODE.
SONIC BLAST!
IT'S TIME NOW, EDDIE, TO PAY THE PIPER FOR YOUR SINS.
SSKKRREEEECH
TO SUFFER FOR WHAT YOU DID TO ME.
WE'D NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE SO WHAT WAS HE BABBLING ABOUT?
WE DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO FIND OUT.
LYING FACE DOWN IN THE HUDSON MIGHT HAVE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THAT.

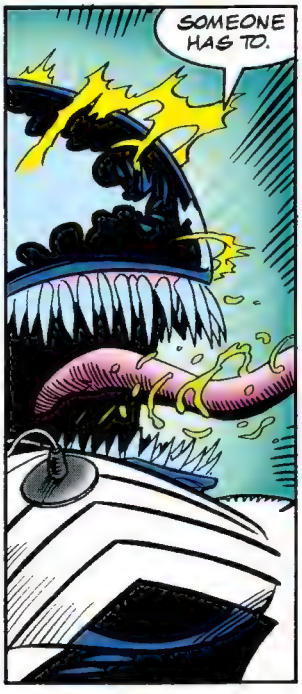
Y-YOU WEIGH A TON, EDDIE. I-IT'S DIFFICULT MOVING MYSELF, LET ALONE YOU.
WHY DIDN'T YOU ;HUN HUN HUN HUN; JUST STAY PUT IN THE LAB?
WHY DID YOU HAVE TO MAKE THIS SO DIFFICULT?
SO IT'S ONE STEP AT A TIME, BUT WE'LL MAKE IT. WE HAVE TO.
;HUN HUN HUN HUN;--IF I HADN'T SIPHONED EVEN THAT SMALL TASTE OF THE SYMBIOTE I NEVER COULD HAVE SAVED YOU.
THEN YOU WOULD HAVE DROWNED..
...AND ALL THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN SUCH A TERRIBLE WASTE.
FOR ONCE WE KEPT OUR EYES CLOSED AND OUR MOUTH SHUT. SOMETIMES THAT'S THE BEST WAY TO GET THESE PSYCHOS TO BLABBER.
AND THE MORE THEY TALK, THE BETTER OUR CHANCES TO RECUPERATE AND THEN TEAR THEM INTO BLOODY LITTLE MEAT RIBBONS.


I'M DYING. I ASSUME YOU KNOW THAT BY NOW.
WE WANTED TO PEEL THE FLESH OFF HIS TOES THEN KEEP GOING TILL WE SHAVED HIS HEAD, BUT MUM WAS THE WORD.
EDDIE, STOP ACTING. MY MONITORS DETECTED YOUR INCREASED RESPIRATION THE MOMENT YOU CAME TO.
OKAY, SO WE'RE NOT THE NEXT KEANU REEVES.
BUT WHAT GIVES? MOST PEOPLE USUALLY HAVE TO KNOW US BEFORE WE'RE HATED.
FAIR QUESTION, EDDIE--


--I WAS A CHEMICAL ENGINEER FOR S.H.I.E.L.D.
WE HAD A HUNCH WE WERE IN FOR A LONG STORY..


...SO WHILE OUR "HOST" GABBED, WE PLANNED OUR ESCAPE.
THE GOVERNMENT ASKED US TO DEVELOP A SPECIAL NERVE GAS TO BRING YOU DOWN.

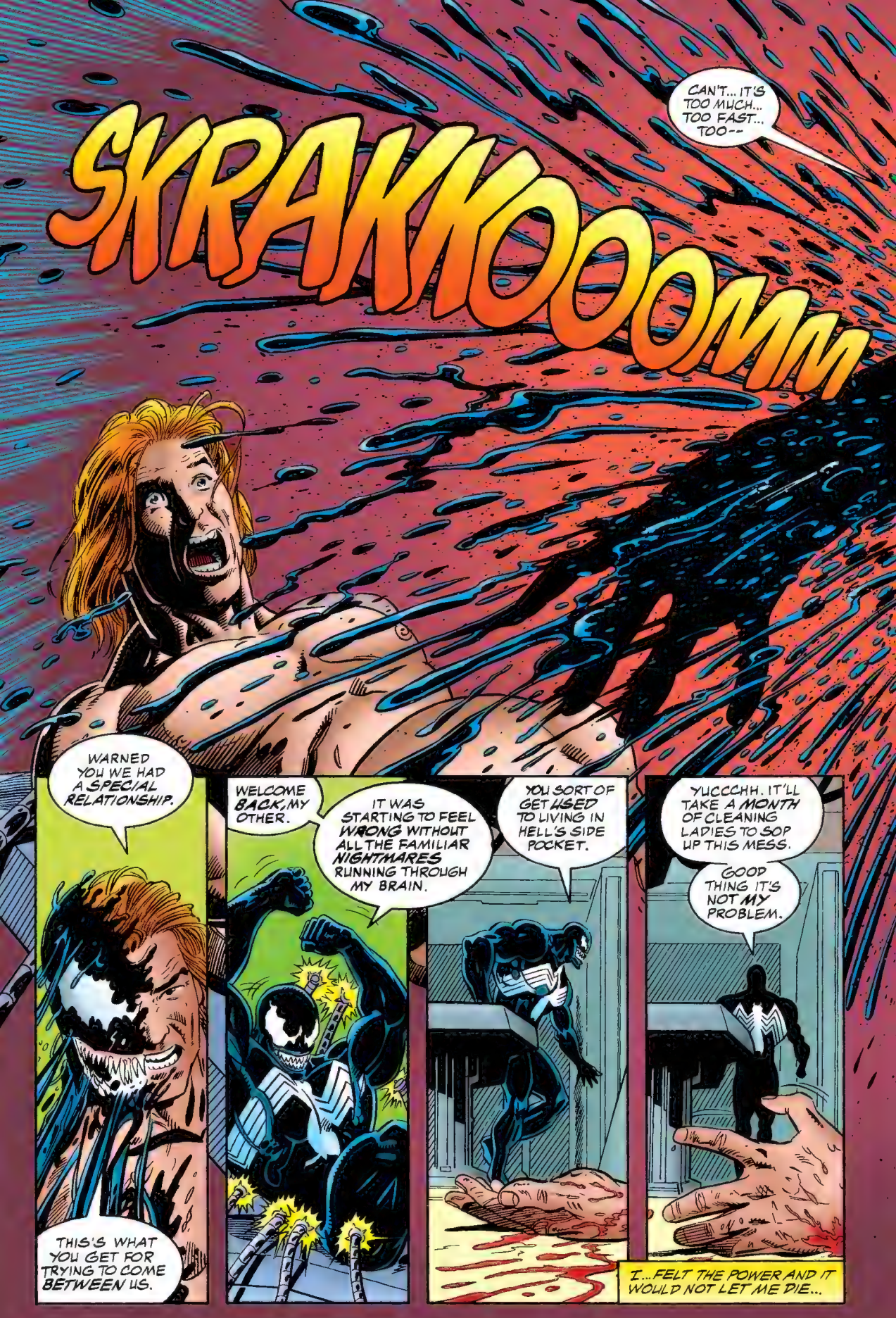
US? WE PAY OUR TAXES AND HARDLY EVER CHEAT.
YOU DO ENJOY YOUR HUMOR, DON'T YOU?


SOMEONE HAS TO.

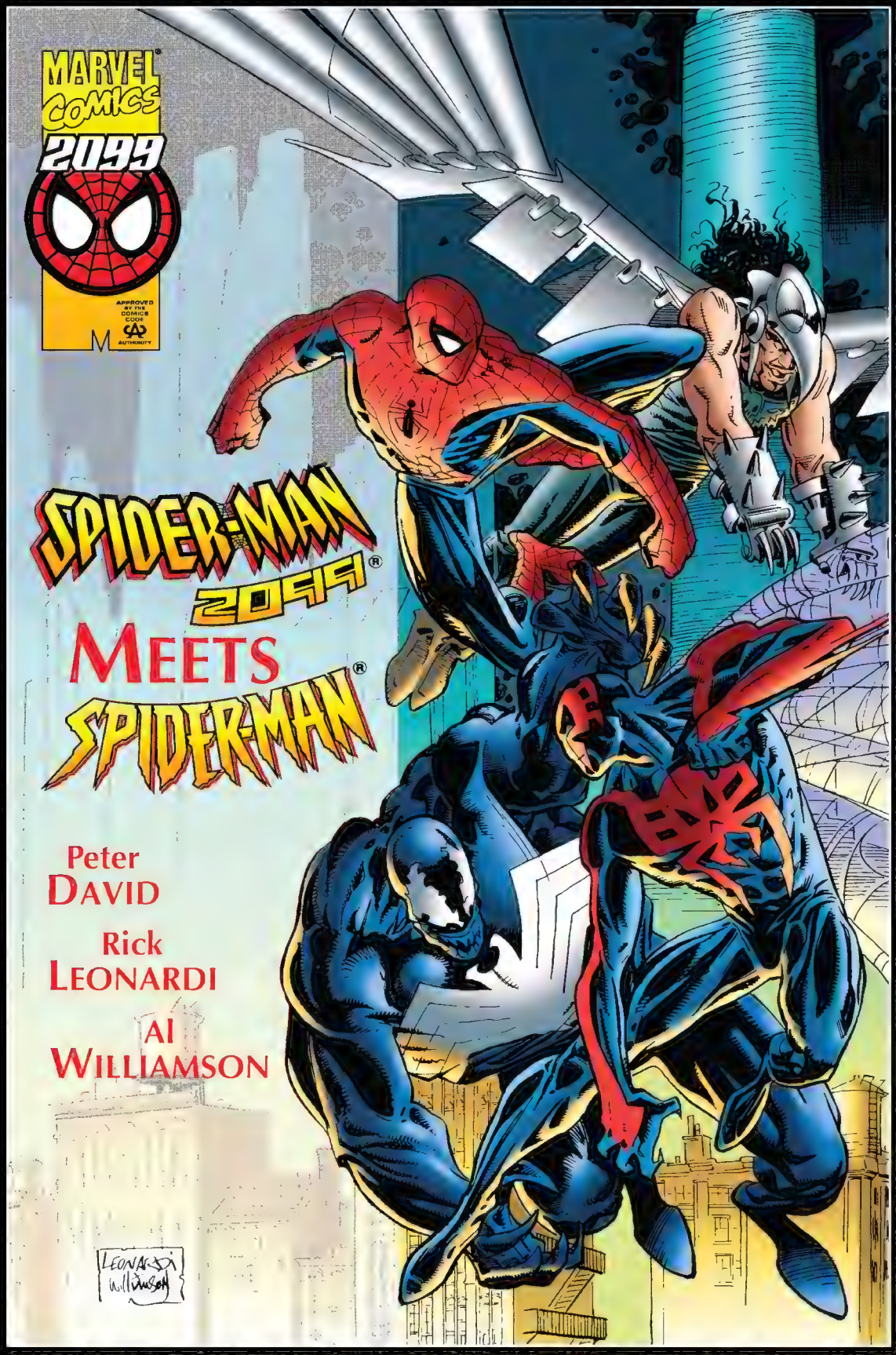
BUT THE NERVE GAS GOT INTO MY SYSTEM. BECAUSE OF YOU I WAS DYING.
STILL, I HAD READ YOUR FILES. I KNEW EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU... AND THE SYMBIOTE.
I BELIEVE IT CAN KEEP ME ALIVE. BUT IT'S MORE THAN THAT, EDDIE...

...I BELIEVE ITS HEALING FACTOR CAN MAKE ME IMMORTAL.
I NEED TO EXTRACT THE SYMBIOTE FROM YOU. I NEED IT TO TAKE ME OVER.
I NEED IT TO GIVE ME ITS POWER AND ITS LIFE!
YOU MUST BE A DOZEN FLOORS SHY OF A SKYSCRAPER. IT'LL NEVER HAPPEN.
WE HAVE A SYMBIOTIC BOND. WE'RE NOT SEPARATE... WE'RE ONE.
I UNDERSTAND REMOVING IT FORCIBLY WILL PROBABLY KILL YOU, EDDIE BUT IT'LL STILL EXIST.
REMAINING SYMBIOTE EXTRACTION ACTIVATE
AARRRGGHHH!
I AM SORRY, BUT YOUR OTHER IS ALL I CARE ABOUT.
ENTER ME, SYMBIOTE... BECOME PART OF ME AS YOU WERE WITH EDDIE BROCK.
LET ME POSSESS YOUR STRENGTH.
GIVE ME YOUR LIFE!

YES... I CAN FEEL IT ENTERING...
MY GOD! THIS IS MORE THAN I EVER REALIZED IT COULD BE.
THOSE SOUNDS... LIKE NOTHING I'VE EVER HEARD BEFORE, COLORS I COULD NEVER IMAGINE...
THIS IS SO INCREDIBLE...
HOW COULD YOU BE SO SELFISH TO KEEP THIS ALL FOR YOUR--
YOU WANTED THE SYMBIOTE, GRUESOME. BUT IF YOU TAKE IT, YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE IT ALL!
OH, GOD-- IT'S COMING IN TOO FAST... I--I CAN'T ABSORB IT ALL. N-NOW IT'S CHANGING!
N...NOOO!
IT'S HORRIBLE! NOISE... SO SHRILL... SO PIERCING... MY EARS... BLEEDING... COLORS... TURNING INTO... INTO THINGS... INTO MONSTERS!!!
THOSE AWFUL, TERRIBLE IMAGES... BURNING INTO MY BRAIN! I--I CAN'T SHUT THEM OUT... I CAN'T MAKE THEM GO!
MAKE IT STOP! MAKE IT GO AWAY!!


SKRAKKOOOMM
CAN'T... IT'S TOO MUCH... TOO FAST... TOO--
WARNED YOU WE HAD A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP.
THIS'S WHAT YOU GET FOR TRYING TO COME BETWEEN US.
WELCOME BACK, MY OTHER.
IT WAS STARTING TO FEEL WRONG WITHOUT ALL THE FAMILIAR NIGHTMARES RUNNING THROUGH MY BRAIN.
YOU SORT OF GET USED TO LIVING IN HELL'S SIDE POCKET.
YUCCCHH. IT'LL TAKE A MONTH OF CLEANING LADIES TO SOP UP THIS MESS.
GOOD THING IT'S NOT MY PROBLEM.
I...FELT THE POWER AND IT WOULD NOT LET ME DIE...

IN THIS EXCERPT FROM *SPIDER-MAN 2099 MEETS SPIDER-MAN*, VENOM ENCOUNTERED MIGUEL O'HARA, THE SPIDER-MAN OF 2099, WHO HAD SOMEHOW SWITCHED PLACES WITH PETER PARKER AND WAS NOW STRUGGLING TO PREVENT A LOOMING TEMPORAL CATASTROPHE.



WRITER: PETER DAVID • PENCILER: RICK LEONARDI • INKER: AL WILLIAMSON • COLORIST: STEVE BUCCELLATO
LETTERER: KEN LOPEZ • ASSISTANT EDITOR: LIA PELOSI • EDITOR: JOEY CAVALIERI

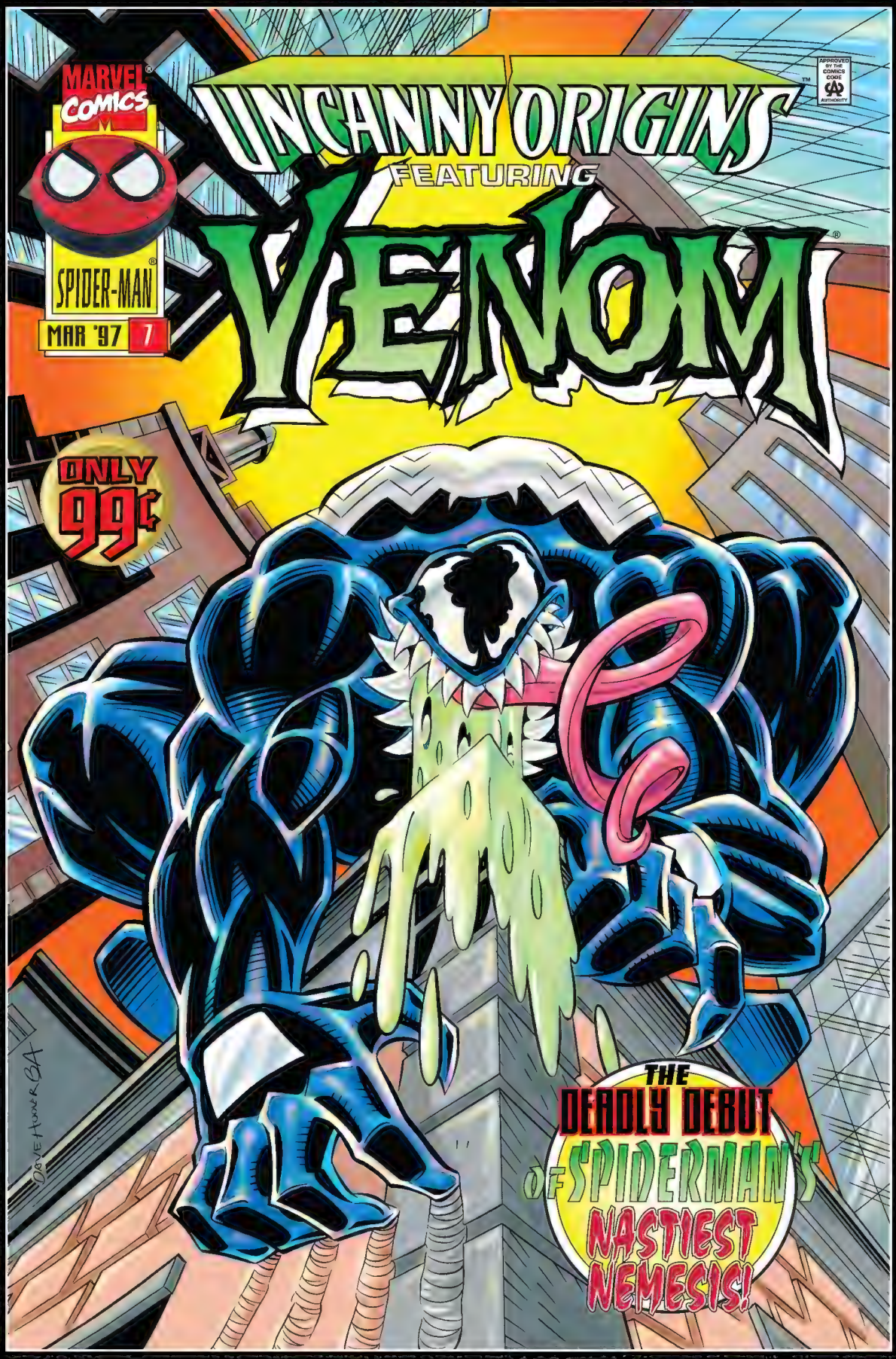
I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF WAVELENGTH THOSE ENERGY WAVES ARE ON, BUT MY ACCELERATED VISION IS PICKING THEM UP NO PROBLEM...
AND THEY SEEM TO BE ORIGINATING FROM THAT DIR--
WELL, WELL! NICE OUTFIT!
TOO BAD THAT YOU STOLE IT FROM ME!

I CAN SMELL AN IMPOSTOR A MILE OFF! SO WHO ARE YOU?
AN OBSESSIVE FAN? A CLONE? WHAT?
OOOOOFF!
GONE. THAT'S A RELIEF.
STRONG SILENT TYPE, HUH?
AFTER ALL THIS TIME WITH MR. "NOT-HALF-AS-FUNNY-AS-HE-THINKS," YOU'RE A PLEASANT CHANGE OF PACE.

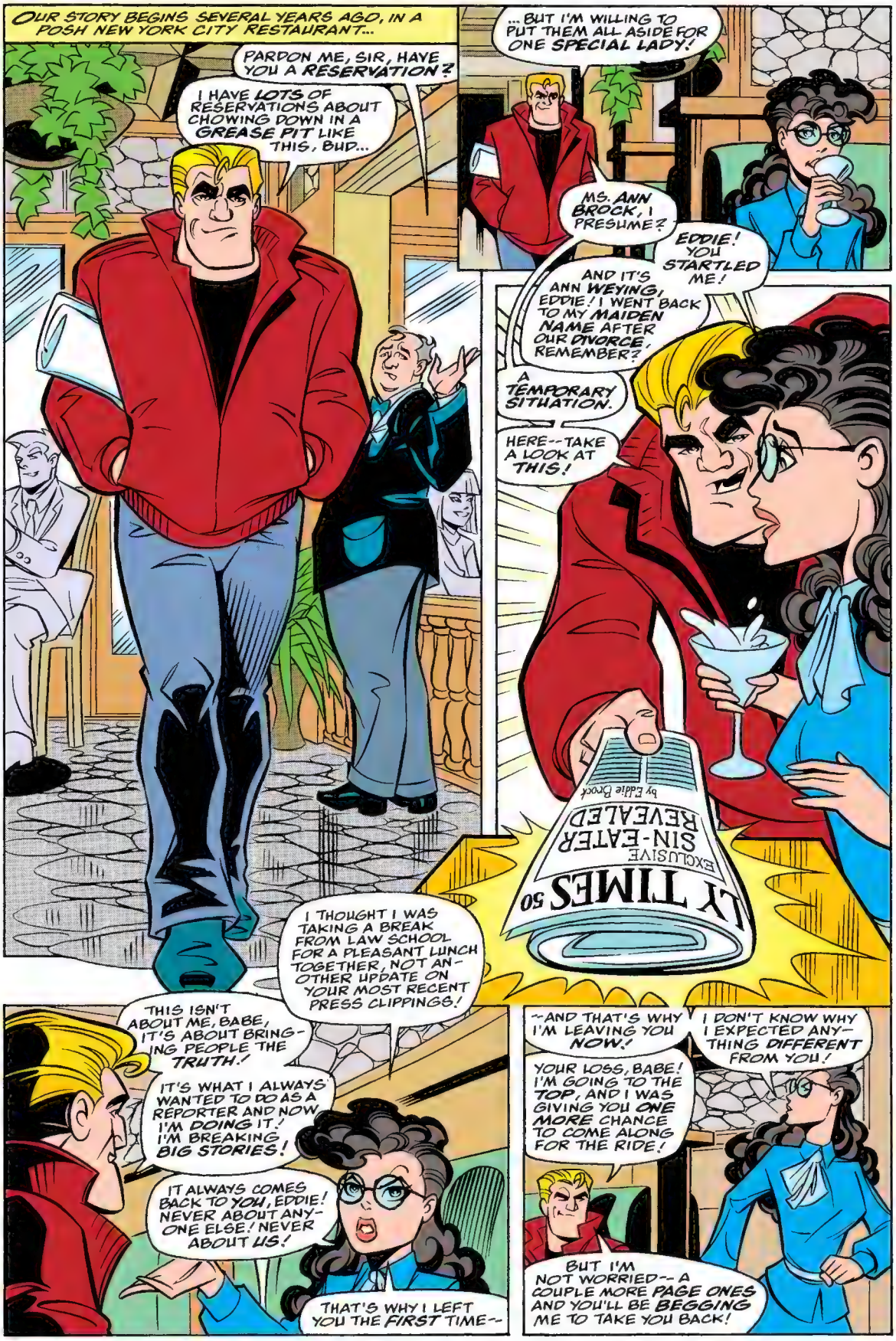
BLA-SPLOOSH
HI THERE, CUPCAKE!
DID'JA MISS ME?
I KNOW, I KNOW, YOU'RE NEW TO THIS GAME. YOU PROBABLY FIGURED I'D CUT YOU A BREAK...
RIIIIP
CUT THIS.
ARRHHHH!!!

S'FUNNY...
WE ALWAYS WANT WHAT WE DON'T HAVE.
AND THE THING WE WANT MOST IS TO KNOW WHAT THE FUTHRE HOLDS. TO KNOW THE SHAPE OF IT. WE SPECULATE ABOUT IT, ARGUE ABOUT IT.
AND I KNOW.
AND I WISH TO HEAVEN I DIDN'T.
UNHHH!
GET OFF ME, YOU IDIOT!
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THERE'S SOMETHING HAPPENING BIGGER THAN YOU OR ME! IF YOU DON'T GET OFF ME...
DON'T YOU GET IT?! I'M OUT OF TIME!
NOTHING'S GOING TO MATTER ANYMORE! NOT YOU, NOT ME! NOTHING!

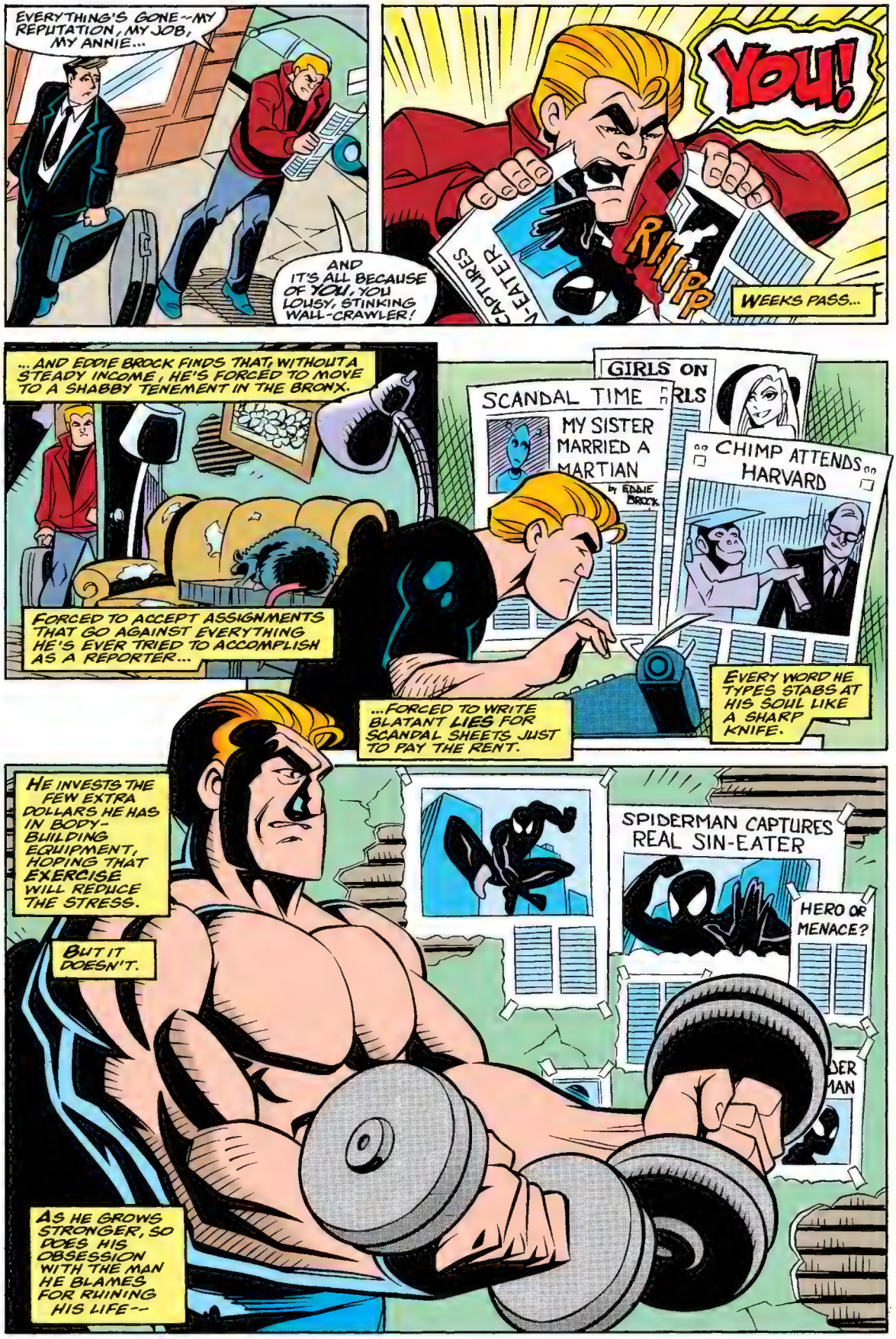
BEFORE, YOU WOULDN'T TALK... AND NOW... YOU WON'T SHUT UP.
:ACCCK: MY TONGUE!
I'LL GET YOU FOR TH--
EH?
HUH?
WHAT SENT HIM RUNN--?
HE CAN SAY NOTHING, THE BREATH HEAVY IN HIS CHEST.
THEY PARADE BEFORE HIM, CHARGING INTO THEIR DESTINY... GHOSTS OF A NEAR-FUTURE... NOT QUITE ARRIVED, BUT NOT FAR OFF...
HE DOESN'T KNOW WHERE TO TURN... WHERE TO LOOK... AS THE GLORY OF AN AGE GONE BY ROARS PAST HIM...
UNDER HIS MASK, HE'S BLINDED BY TEARS...
AND THEN...
...SOMETHING GRABS HIM...

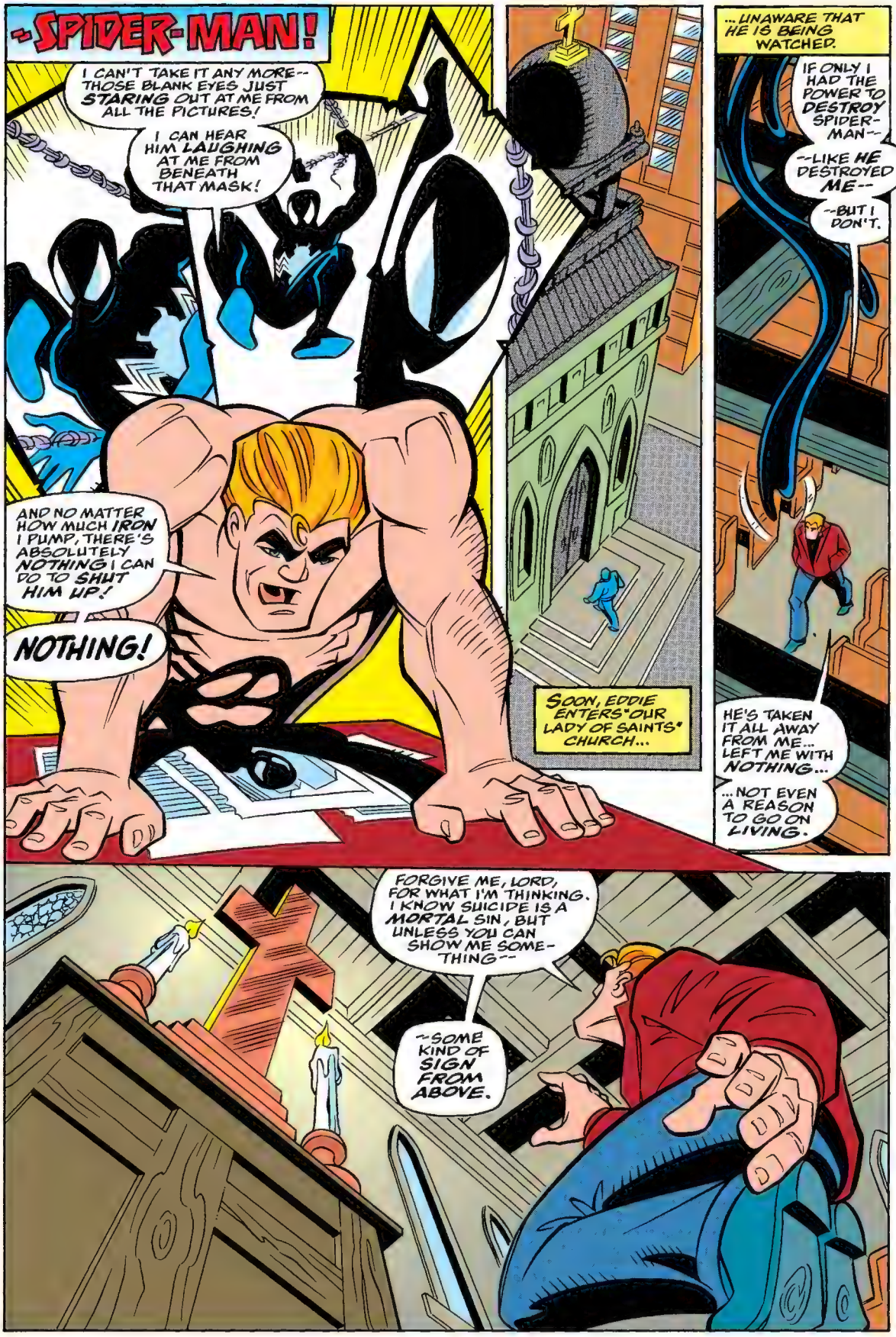

MARVEL COMICS
SPIDER-MAN
MAR '97 1
UNCANNY ORIGINS
FEATURING
VENOM
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
ONLY 99¢
THE DEADLY DEBUT OF SPIDERMAN'S NASTIEST NEMESIS!
DAVE HUNER BA

HE CALLS HIMSELF VENOM THE LETHAL PROTECTOR!
HE THINKS OF HIMSELF AS A SUPER HERO -- DEDICATED TO DEFENDING THE INNOCENT FROM EVILDOERS EVERYWHERE.
BUT THE REALITY IS THAT HE IS A GROTESQUE PARODY OF EVERYTHING HE BELIEVES HIMSELF TO BE, A SUPER HERO IN HIS MIND AND HIS MIND ALONE...
...FOR NO GOOD DEED HE DOES IN THE PRESENT CAN EVER ERASE THE EVIL OF HIS OWN WRETCHED PAST!
ORIGINAL SIN!
BOB BUDIANSKY WRITER
DAVE HOOVER PENCILS
BILL ANDERSON INKER
JACK MORELLI LETTERS
BOB SHAREN COLORS
TERRY KAVANAGH EDITOR
BOB HARRAS CHIEF
DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF MARK GRUENWALD --A FRIEND IN THE TRUEST SENSE OF THE WORD.


OUR STORY BEGINS SEVERAL YEARS AGO, IN A POSH NEW YORK CITY RESTAURANT...
PARDON ME, SIR, HAVE YOU A RESERVATION?
I HAVE LOTS OF RESERVATIONS ABOUT CHOWING DOWN IN A GREASE PIT LIKE THIS, BUD...
... BUT I'M WILLING TO PUT THEM ALL ASIDE FOR ONE SPECIAL LADY!
MS. ANN BROCK, I PRESUME?
EDDIE! YOU STARTLED ME!
AND IT'S ANN WEYING, EDDIE! I WENT BACK TO MY MAIDEN NAME AFTER OUR DIVORCE, REMEMBER?
A TEMPORARY SITUATION.
HERE--TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!
LY TIMES 50
EXCLUSIVE
SIN-EATER REVEALED
by Eddie Brock
I THOUGHT I WAS TAKING A BREAK FROM LAW SCHOOL FOR A PLEASANT LUNCH TOGETHER, NOT ANOTHER UPDATE ON YOUR MOST RECENT PRESS CLIPPINGS!
THIS ISN'T ABOUT ME, BABE, IT'S ABOUT BRINGING PEOPLE THE TRUTH!
IT'S WHAT I ALWAYS WANTED TO DO AS A REPORTER AND NOW I'M DOING IT! I'M BREAKING BIG STORIES!
IT ALWAYS COMES BACK TO YOU, EDDIE! NEVER ABOUT ANYONE ELSE! NEVER ABOUT US!
THAT'S WHY I LEFT YOU THE FIRST TIME--
--AND THAT'S WHY I'M LEAVING YOU NOW!
I DON'T KNOW WHY I EXPECTED ANYTHING DIFFERENT FROM YOU!
YOUR LOSS, BABE! I'M GOING TO THE TOP, AND I WAS GIVING YOU ONE MORE CHANCE TO COME ALONG FOR THE RIDE!
BUT I'M NOT WORRIED-- A COUPLE MORE PAGE ONES AND YOU'LL BE BEGGING ME TO TAKE YOU BACK!

LATER...
...AT THE OFFICES OF THE DAILY GLOBE...
--CAN'T IMAGINE WHY BUSHKIN CALLED ME IN ON MY DAY OFF!
MAYBE HE FEELS A RAISE IS IN ORDER FOR MY EXCLUSIVE, AND COULDN'T WAIT ANOTHER DAY TO GIVE IT TO ME!
SO BOSS, WHY THE EMERGENCY? YOU NEED ME TO DIG UP SOMETHING FOR TOMORROW'S FRONT PAGE?
EDITOR IN CHIEF
BROCK, YOU IDIOT! DID YOU SEE THE HEADLINE OF THE BUGLE'S AFTERNOON EDITION?!
SPIDERM
IS THIS SOME KIND OF JOKE?
YOU'RE THE JOKE, BROCK! YOUR SLIPSHOD REPORTING HAS MADE A MOCKERY OF THE JOURNALISM PROFESSION EVER SINCE I BROUGHT YOU ON STAFF!
SPIDERMAN CAPTURES REAL SIN-EATER
YOU FINGERED THE WRONG SIN-EATER!!
SPIDERMAN CAPTURES REAL SIN-EATER
THIS IS THE LAST TIME I RUN A STORY OF YOURS WHERE YOU DON'T DOUBLE-CHECK YOUR SOURCES!
YOU'RE FIRED!

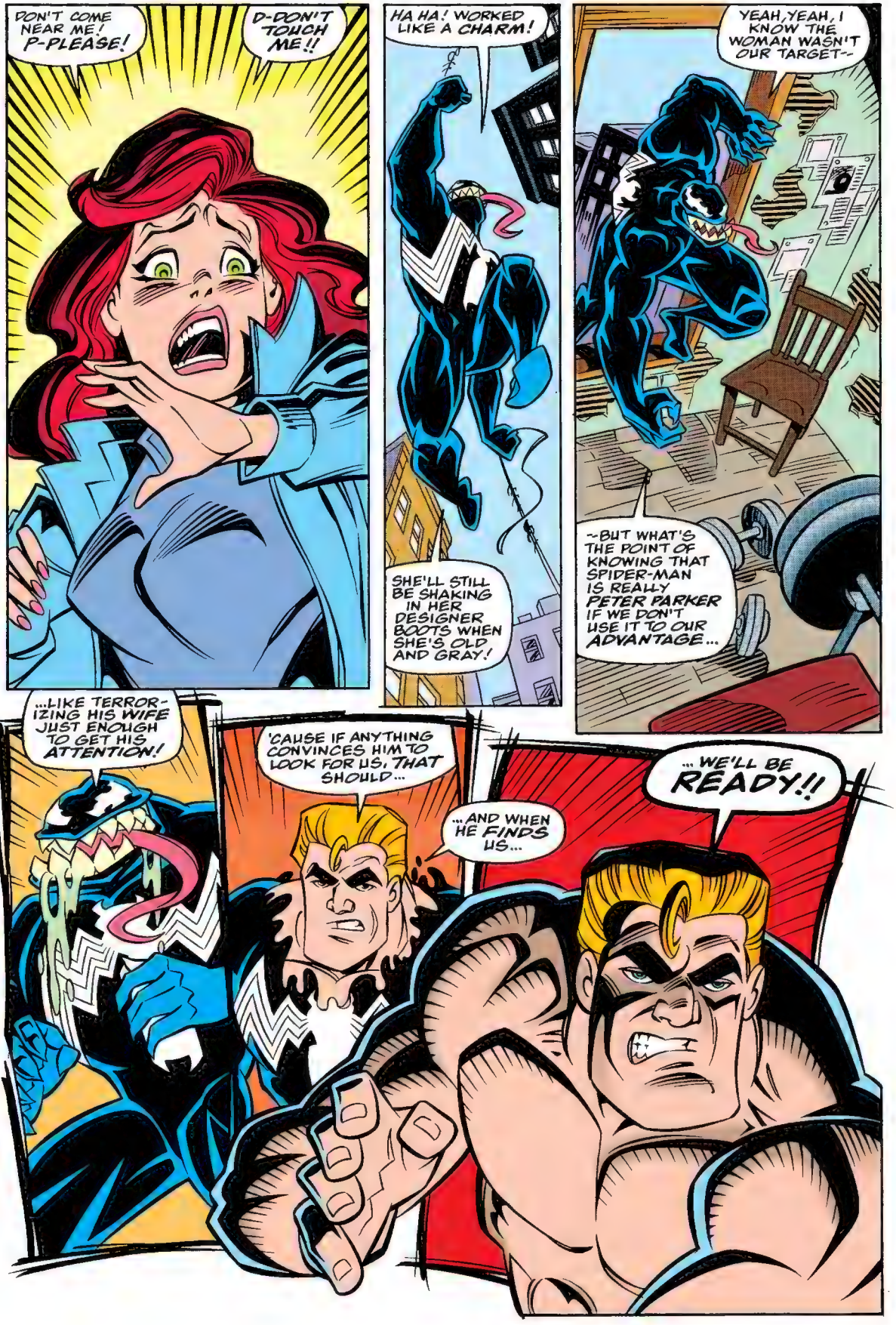

EVERYTHING'S GONE--MY REPUTATION, MY JOB, MY ANNIE...
AND IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF YOU, YOU LOUSY, STINKING WALL-CRAWLER!
YOU!
RIIPP
WEEKS PASS...
...AND EDDIE BROCK FINDS THAT, WITHOUT A STEADY INCOME, HE'S FORCED TO MOVE TO A SHABBY TENEMENT IN THE BRONX.
FORCED TO ACCEPT ASSIGNMENTS THAT GO AGAINST EVERYTHING HE'S EVER TRIED TO ACCOMPLISH AS A REPORTER...
GIRLS ON
SCANDAL TIME
MY SISTER MARRIED A MARTIAN
by EDDIE BROCK
CHIMP ATTENDS HARVARD
...FORCED TO WRITE BLATANT LIES FOR SCANDAL SHEETS JUST TO PAY THE RENT.
EVERY WORD HE TYPES STABS AT HIS SOUL LIKE A SHARP KNIFE.
HE INVESTS THE FEW EXTRA DOLLARS HE HAS IN BODY-BUILDING EQUIPMENT, HOPING THAT EXERCISE WILL REDUCE THE STRESS.
BUT IT DOESN'T.
SPIDERMAN CAPTURES REAL SIN-EATER
HERO OR MENACE?
AS HE GROWS STRONGER, SO DOES HIS OBSESSION WITH THE MAN HE BLAMES FOR RUINING HIS LIFE--


~SPIDER-MAN!
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY MORE-- THOSE BLANK EYES JUST STARING OUT AT ME FROM ALL THE PICTURES!
I CAN HEAR HIM LAUGHING AT ME FROM BENEATH THAT MASK!
AND NO MATTER HOW MUCH IRON I PUMP, THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NOTHING I CAN DO TO SHUT HIM UP!
NOTHING!
SOON, EDDIE ENTERS "OUR LADY OF SAINTS" CHURCH...
...UNAWARE THAT HE IS BEING WATCHED.
IF ONLY I HAD THE POWER TO DESTROY SPIDER-MAN--
--LIKE HE DESTROYED ME--
--BUT I DON'T.
HE'S TAKEN IT ALL AWAY FROM ME... LEFT ME WITH NOTHING...
...NOT EVEN A REASON TO GO ON LIVING.
FORGIVE ME, LORD, FOR WHAT I'M THINKING. I KNOW SUICIDE IS A MORTAL SIN, BUT UNLESS YOU CAN SHOW ME SOME-THING--
--SOME KIND OF SIGN FROM ABOVE.

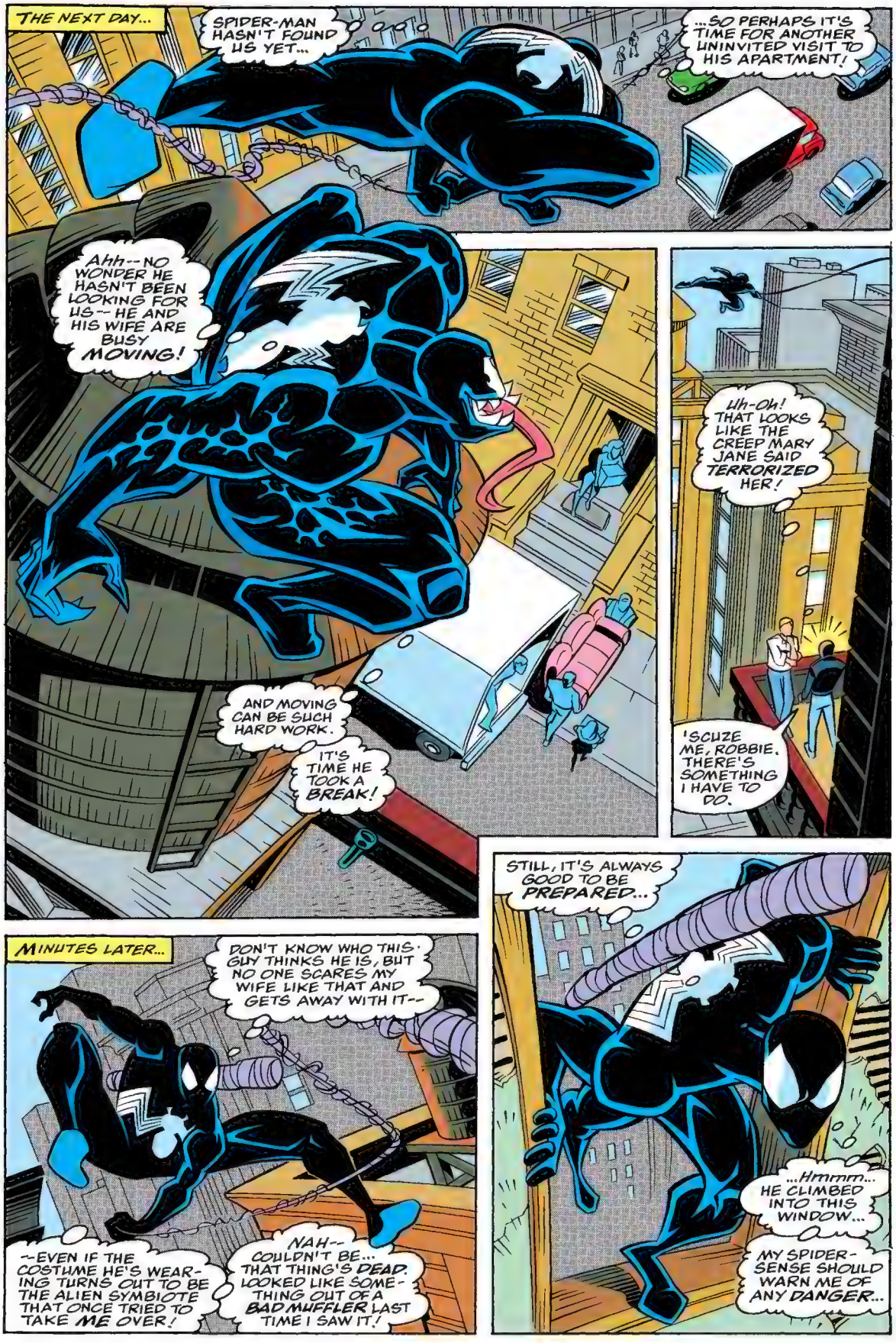
... IT'S MY ONLY HOPE.
Wha--?!
WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME??!

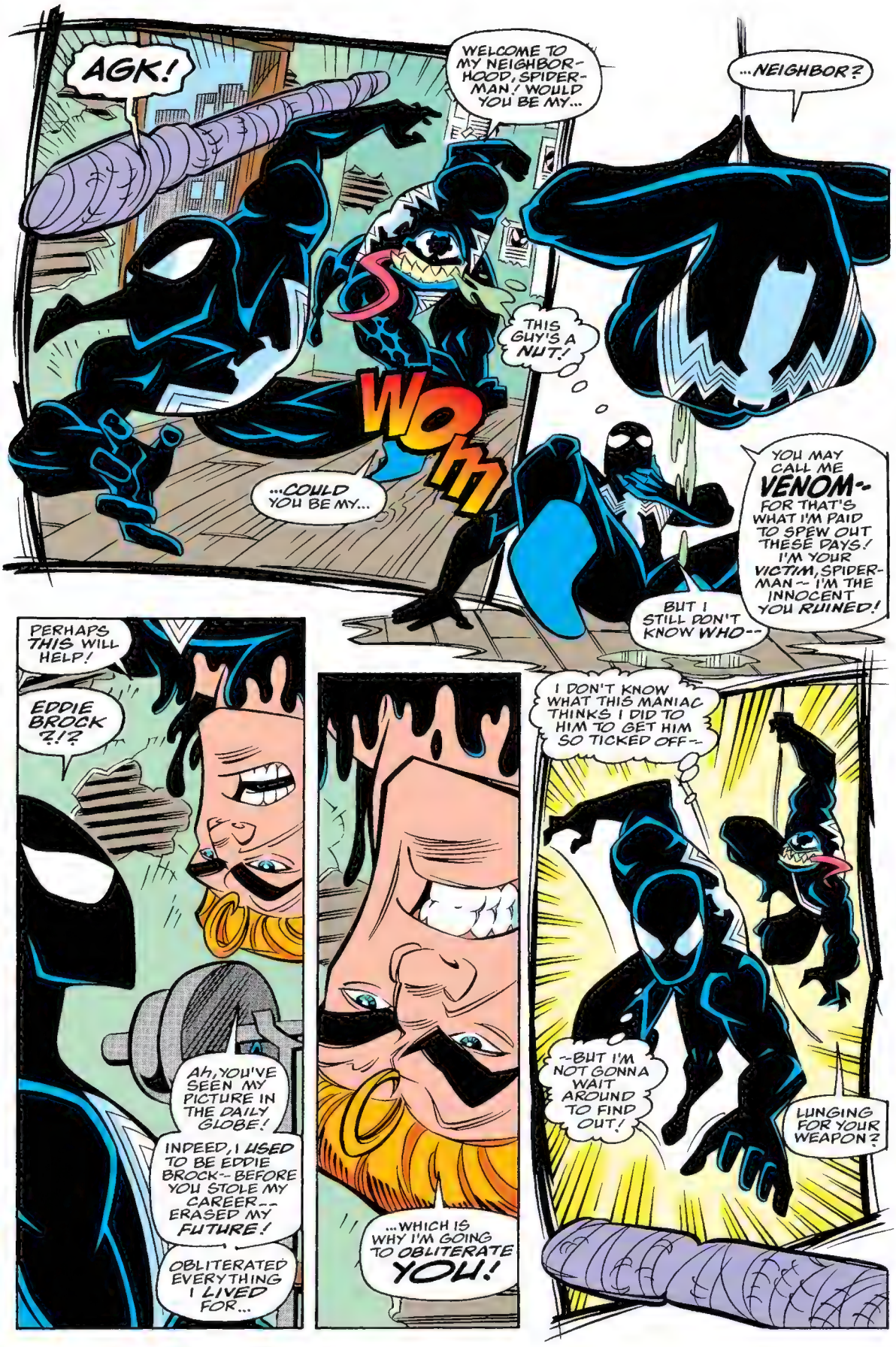
ARRGH!
SOMETHING'S CLAWING AT MY MIND ...TRYING TO TAKE IT OVER!
NOOOO!!
FEEL LIKE MY BRAIN'S BEING RIPPED OPEN ...IMAGES POURING IN--
--I SEE SPIDER-MAN... ON SOME ALIEN WORLD!
SOME BLACK... THING... WRAPPED AROUND HIM-- COVERING HIS BODY!
SPIDER-MAN'S BACK ON EARTH-- WEARING HIS BLACK COSTUME-- BUT IT'S MORE THAN A COSTUME--
--IT'S A LIVING SYMBIOTIC CREATURE... THAT THING FROM THE ALIEN WORLD...
...SPIDER-MAN BROUGHT IT HOME WITH HIM-- DIDN'T KNOW HIS NEW COSTUME WAS ALIVE...
...AND IT HAS GREAT POWER... TOO MUCH EVEN FOR SPIDER-MAN...
...BUT HE KNOWS ITS WEAKNESS... HE KNOWS SOUND CAN HURT IT!
HE THINKS THE CLANGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS KILLED IT...
...THESE CHURCH BELLS!
WAITING FOR ME!
BUT SPIDER-MAN WAS WRONG... THE CREATURE SURVIVED ... KEPT ALIVE BY ITS HATRED OF SPIDER-MAN... FOR WHAT HE TRIED TO DO TO IT!
AND IT'S BEEN WAITING HERE EVER SINCE... WAITING IN THESE SHADOWS...
...FOR SOMEONE WHOSE HATRED OF SPIDER-MAN MATCHES ITS OWN!
NOW WE ARE UNITED-- MIND AND BODY... HEART AND SOUL...
...NOW WE ARE JOINED!

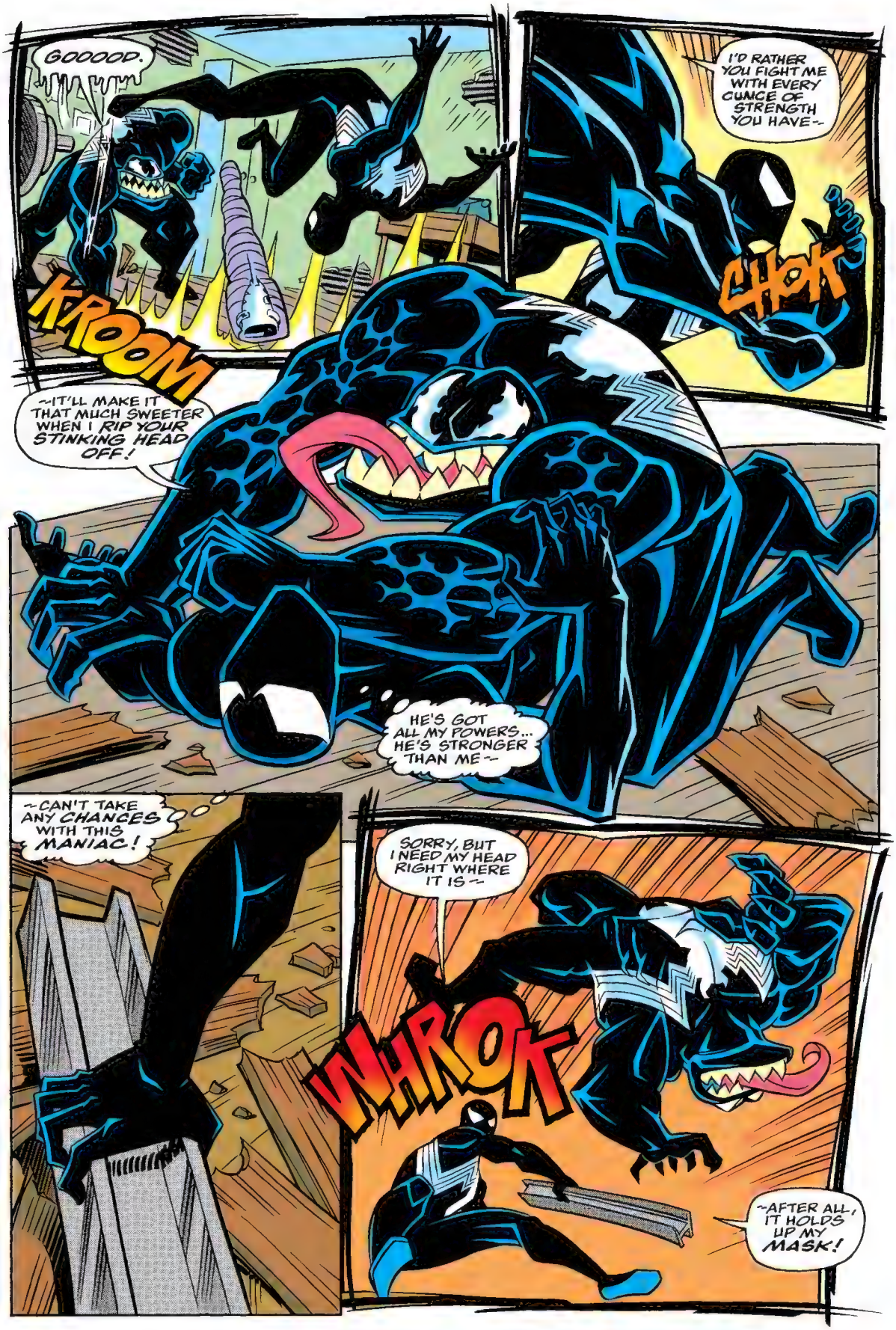
NOW WE HAVE THE POWER TO KILL SPIDER-MAN!
AND WE KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT SPIDER-MAN THAT HE KNEW WHEN HE WORE THE SYMBIOTE AS HIS COSTUME--
--WE KNOW WHO HE IS, WHERE HE LIVES--
--WHO HE'S MARRIED TO...
PETER? IS THAT YOU?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING SITTING IN THE DARK?
HI, HONEY...
...I'M HOME!

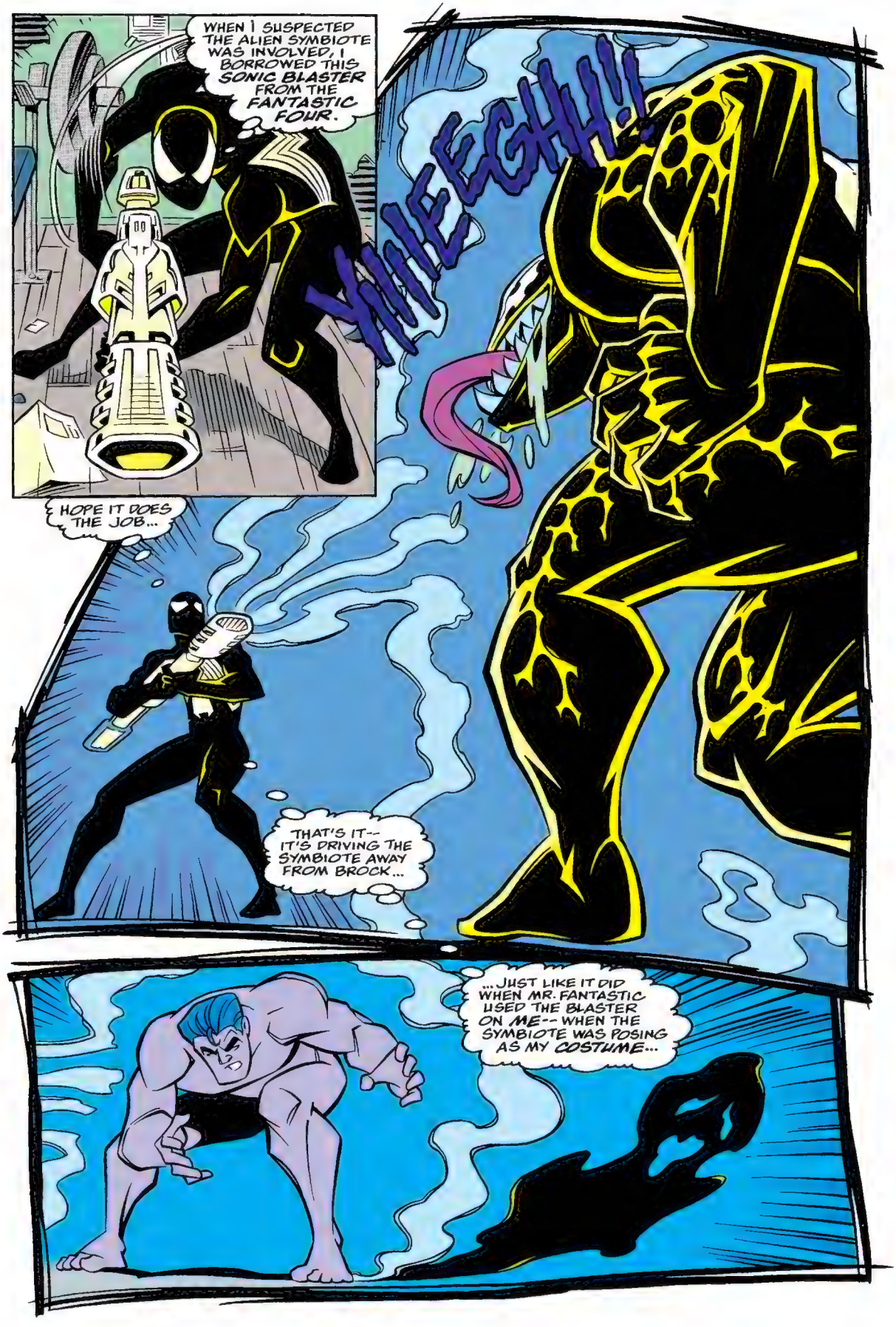

DON'T COME NEAR ME! P-PLEASE!
D-DON'T TOUCH ME!!
HA HA! WORKED LIKE A CHARM!
SHE'LL STILL BE SHAKING IN HER DESIGNER BOOTS WHEN SHE'S OLD AND GRAY!
YEAH, YEAH, I KNOW THE WOMAN WASN'T OUR TARGET--
--BUT WHAT'S THE POINT OF KNOWING THAT SPIDER-MAN IS REALLY PETER PARKER IF WE DON'T USE IT TO OUR ADVANTAGE...
...LIKE TERRORIZING HIS WIFE JUST ENOUGH TO GET HIS ATTENTION!
'CAUSE IF ANYTHING CONVINCES HIM TO LOOK FOR US, THAT SHOULD...
...AND WHEN HE FINDS US...
...WE'LL BE READY!!

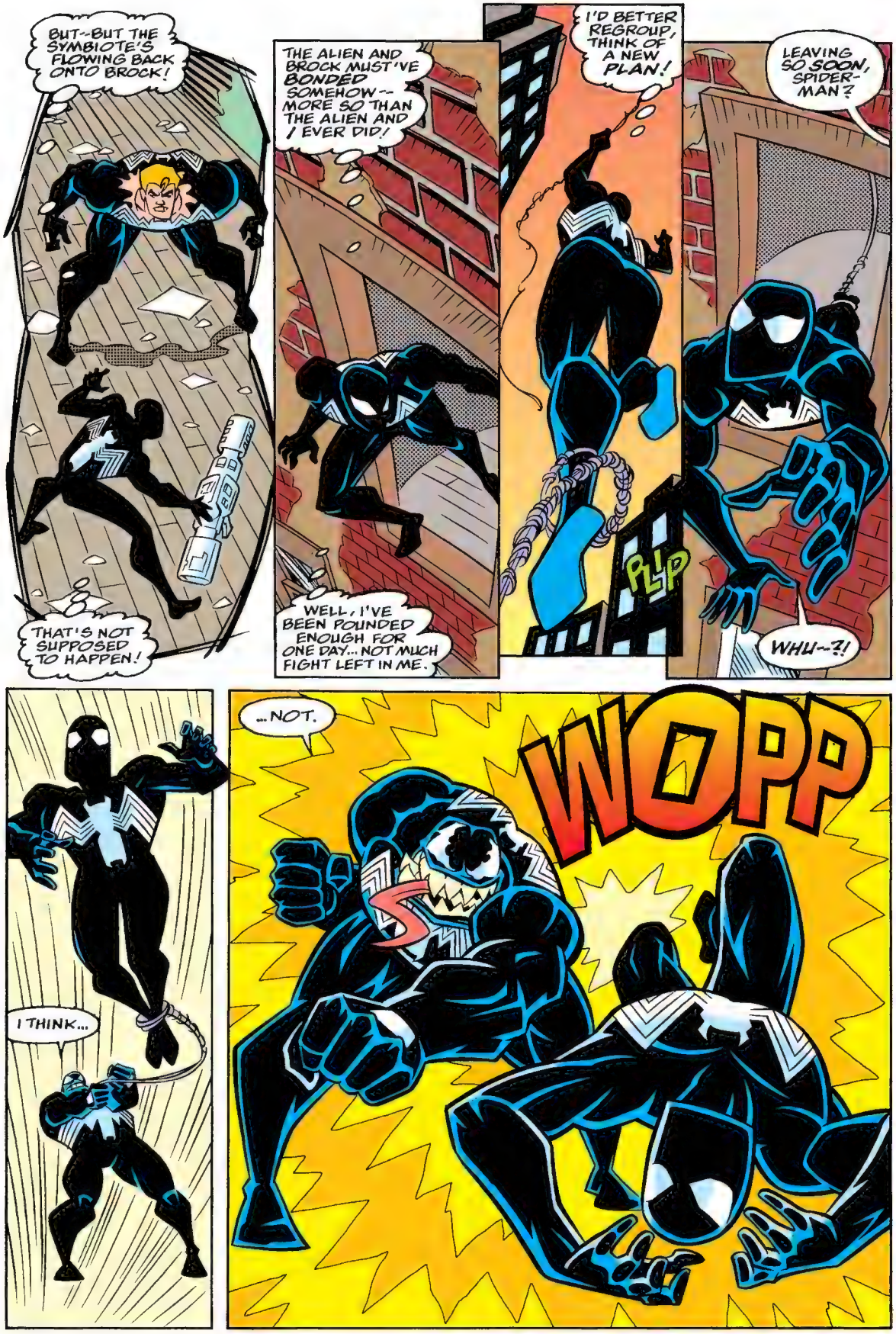
LATER THAT NIGHT...
IT ALL BEGAN HERE...
...IT'S ONLY FITTING THAT IT SHOULD END HERE.
WE NEED TO MAKE PREPARATIONS--
FREEZE!
LOOKS LIKE PUTTIN' EXTRA FOOT PATROLS ON THE BEAT WORKED! I BET YOU'RE THE BUM WHO HAS BEEN PILFERIN' THE POOR BOXES IN THE AREA!
DON'T BE A FOOL, BOY! PETTY CASH IS OF NO CONCERN TO ME!
SAVE IT FOR THE STATION HOUSE, BUSTER!
IT SEEMS YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE...
...THOUGH THIS PARTICULAR CHOICE WE FIND...
...REPULSIVE!
C-CAN'T... BREATHE! ACK!
INNOCENT DEATH IS ALWAYS UNPLEASANT.
BUT NOTHING MUST STAND IN OUR WAY. NOTHING MUST BLOCK OUR RIGHTEOUS REVENGE! AND BY ALL THAT'S SACRED--
~NOTHING WILL!

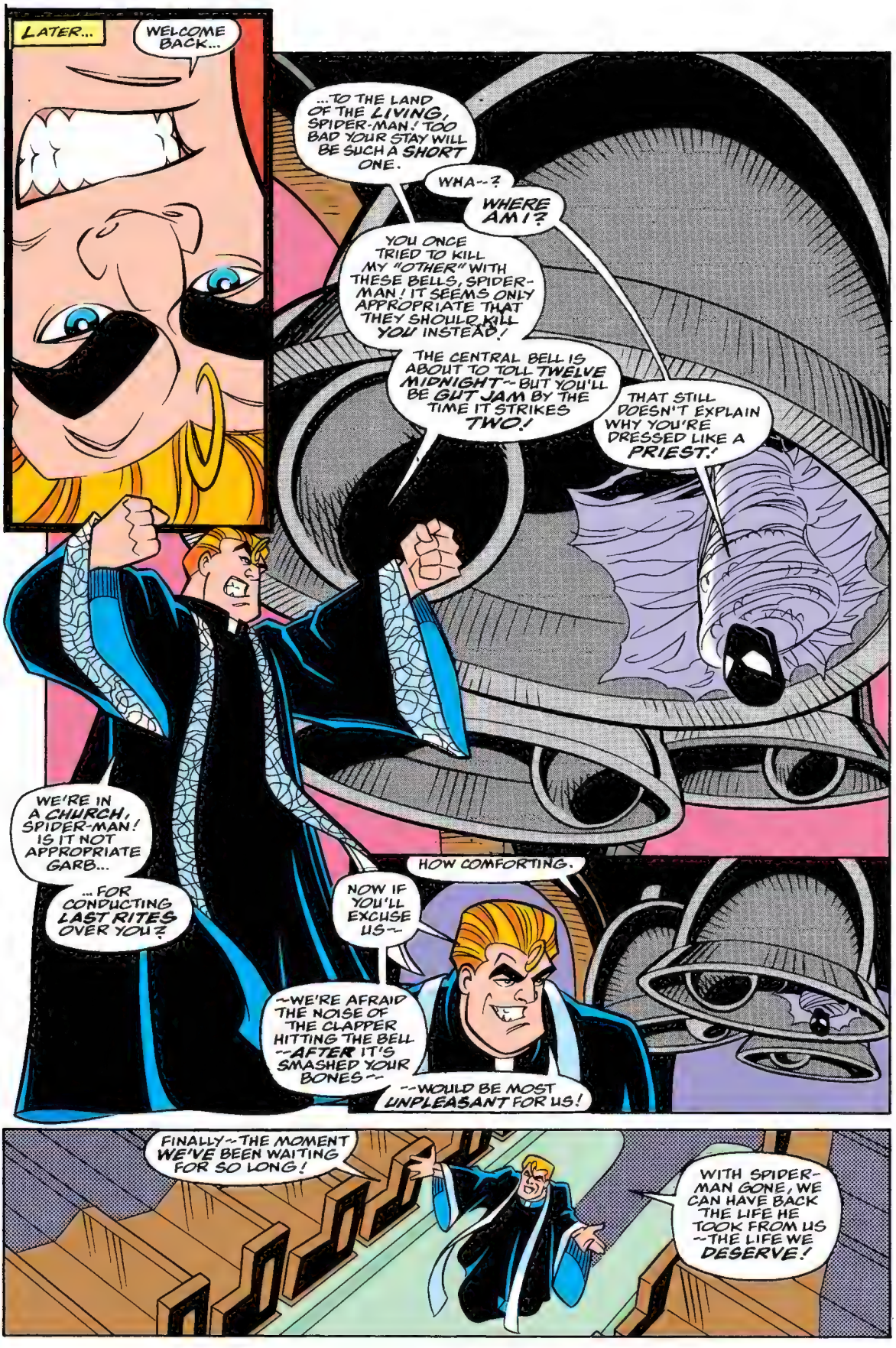

THE NEXT DAY...
SPIDER-MAN HASN'T FOUND US YET...
...SO PERHAPS IT'S TIME FOR ANOTHER UNINVITED VISIT TO HIS APARTMENT!
Ahh--NO WONDER HE HASN'T BEEN LOOKING FOR US--HE AND HIS WIFE ARE BUSY MOVING!
AND MOVING CAN BE SUCH HARD WORK.
IT'S TIME HE TOOK A BREAK!
Uh-Oh! THAT LOOKS LIKE THE CREEP MARY JANE SAID TERRORIZED HER!
'SCUZE ME, ROBBIE. THERE'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO.
MINUTES LATER...
DON'T KNOW WHO THIS GUY THINKS HE IS, BUT NO ONE SCARES MY WIFE LIKE THAT AND GETS AWAY WITH IT--
--EVEN IF THE COSTUME HE'S WEARING TURNS OUT TO BE THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE THAT ONCE TRIED TO TAKE ME OVER!
NAH--COULDN'T BE... THAT THING'S DEAD. LOOKED LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A BAD MUFFLER LAST TIME I SAW IT!
STILL, IT'S ALWAYS GOOD TO BE PREPARED...
...Hmmm... HE CLIMBED INTO THIS WINDOW...
MY SPIDER-SENSE SHOULD WARN ME OF ANY DANGER...

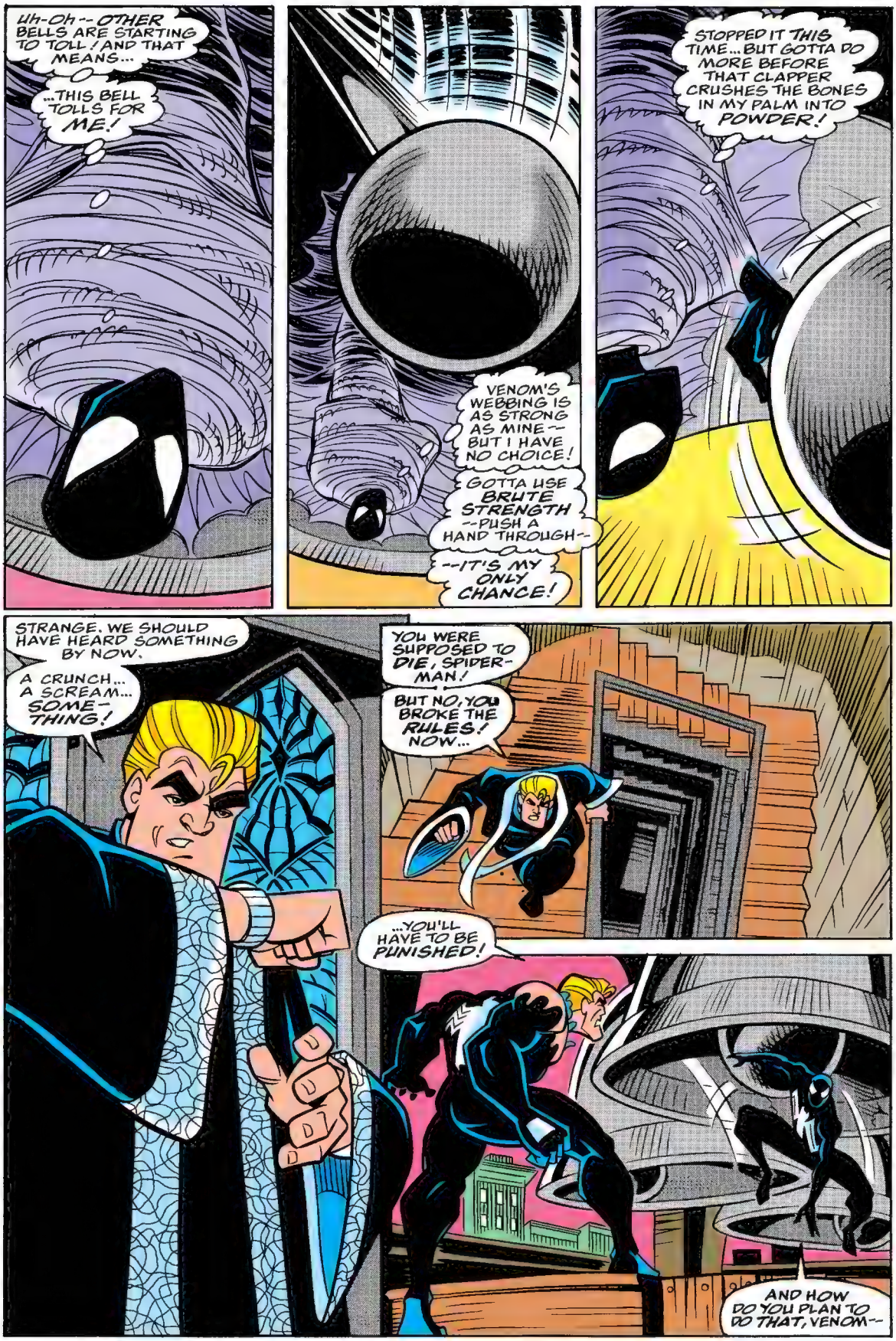

AGK!
WELCOME TO MY NEIGHBOR-HOOD, SPIDER-MAN! WOULD YOU BE MY...
...NEIGHBOR?
THIS GUY'S A NUT!
WOOM
...COULD YOU BE MY...
YOU MAY CALL ME VENOM-- FOR THAT'S WHAT I'M PAID TO SPEW OUT THESE DAYS! I'M YOUR VICTIM, SPIDER-MAN -- I'M THE INNOCENT YOU RUINED!
BUT I STILL DON'T KNOW WHO--
PERHAPS THIS WILL HELP!
EDDIE BROCK ?!?
Ah, YOU'VE SEEN MY PICTURE IN THE DAILY GLOBE!
INDEED, I USED TO BE EDDIE BROCK-- BEFORE YOU STOLE MY CAREER-- ERASED MY FUTURE!
OBLITERATED EVERYTHING I LIVED FOR...
...WHICH IS WHY I'M GOING TO OBLITERATE YOU!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS MANIAC THINKS I DID TO HIM TO GET HIM SO TICKED OFF--
--BUT I'M NOT GONNA WAIT AROUND TO FIND OUT!
LUNGING FOR YOUR WEAPON?


GOOOOD.
I'D RATHER YOU FIGHT ME WITH EVERY OUNCE OF STRENGTH YOU HAVE--
KROOM
CHOK
--IT'LL MAKE IT THAT MUCH SWEETER WHEN I RIP YOUR STINKING HEAD OFF!
HE'S GOT ALL MY POWERS... HE'S STRONGER THAN ME--
--CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES WITH THIS MANIAC!
SORRY, BUT I NEED MY HEAD RIGHT WHERE IT IS--
WHROK
--AFTER ALL, IT HOLDS UP MY MASK!

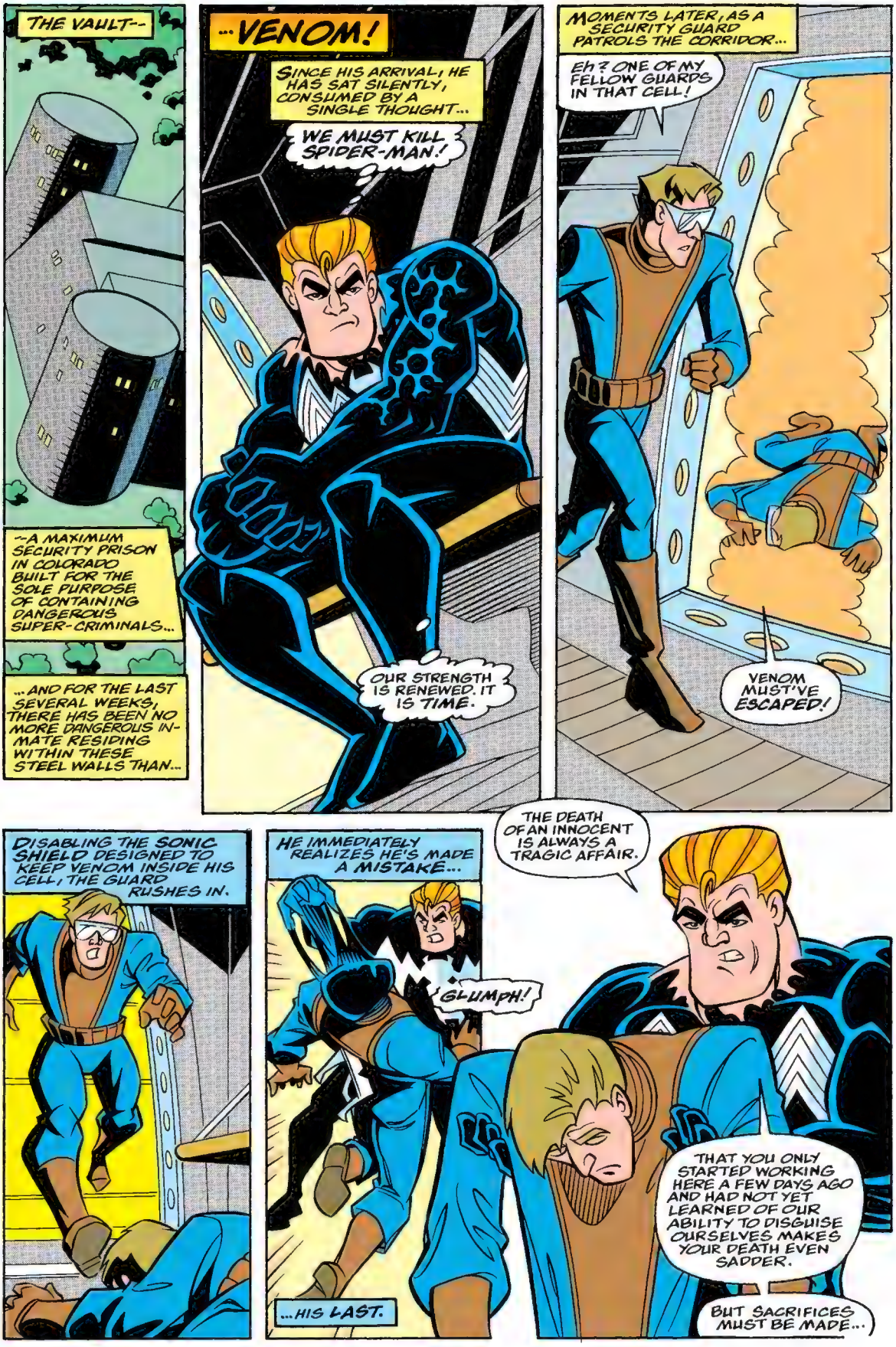

WHEN I SUSPECTED THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE WAS INVOLVED, I BORROWED THIS SONIC BLASTER FROM THE FANTASTIC FOUR.
YHIEEGHH!!
HOPE IT DOES THE JOB...
THAT'S IT-- IT'S DRIVING THE SYMBIOTE AWAY FROM BROCK...
...JUST LIKE IT DID WHEN MR. FANTASTIC USED THE BLASTER ON ME-- WHEN THE SYMBIOTE WAS POSING AS MY COSTUME...


BUT--BUT THE SYMBIOTE'S FLOWING BACK ONTO BROCK!
THAT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN!
THE ALIEN AND BROCK MUST'VE BONDED SOMEHOW-- MORE SO THAN THE ALIEN AND I EVER DID!
WELL, I'VE BEEN POUNDED ENOUGH FOR ONE DAY... NOT MUCH FIGHT LEFT IN ME.
I'D BETTER REGROUP, THINK OF A NEW PLAN!
PLP
LEAVING SO SOON, SPIDER-MAN?
WHU--?!
I THINK...
...NOT.
WOPP

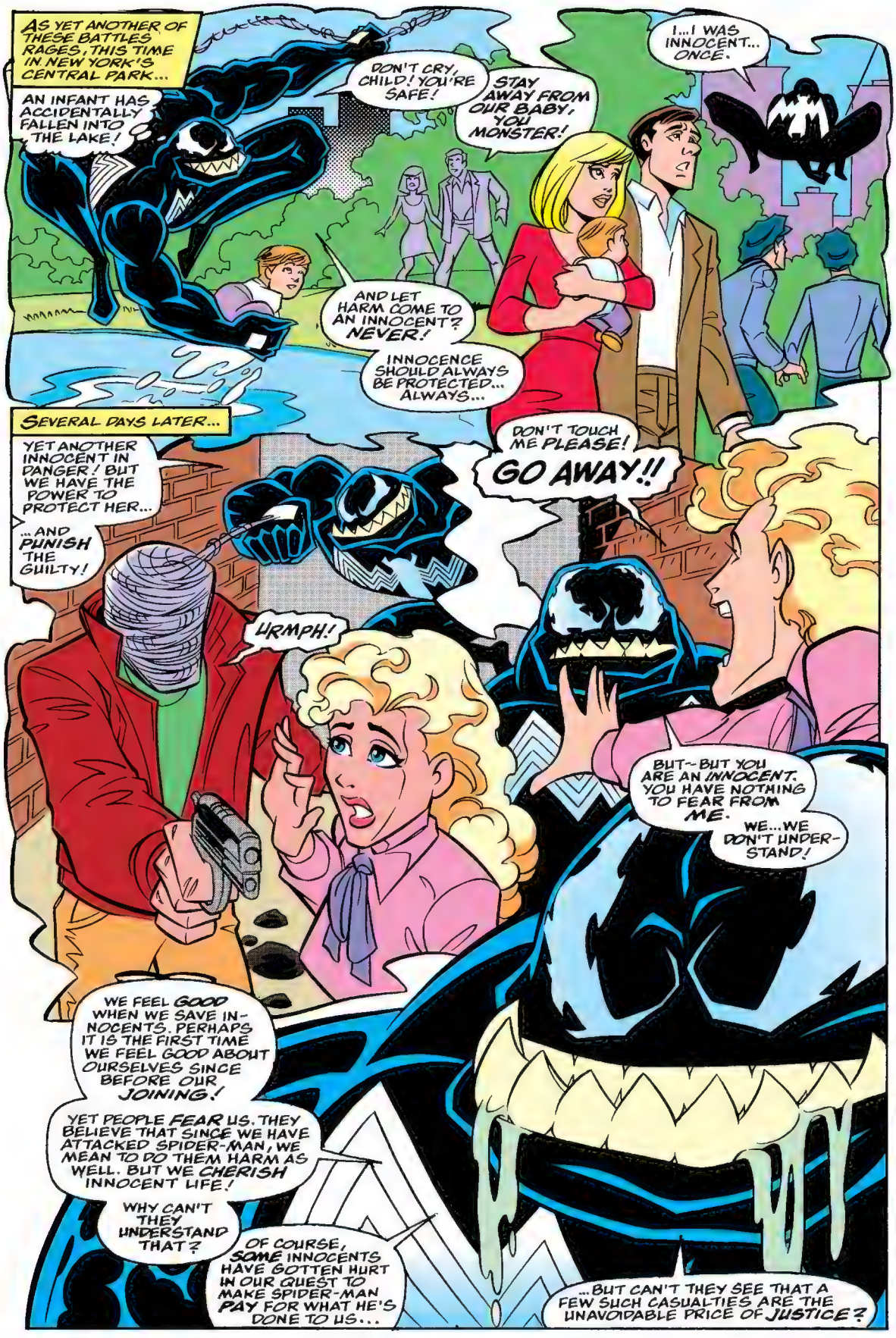

LATER...
WELCOME BACK...
...TO THE LAND OF THE LIVING, SPIDER-MAN! TOO BAD YOUR STAY WILL BE SUCH A SHORT ONE.
WHA--?
WHERE AM I?
YOU ONCE TRIED TO KILL MY "OTHER" WITH THESE BELLS, SPIDER-MAN! IT SEEMS ONLY APPROPRIATE THAT THEY SHOULD KILL YOU INSTEAD!
THE CENTRAL BELL IS ABOUT TO TOLL TWELVE MIDNIGHT--BUT YOU'LL BE GUT JAM BY THE TIME IT STRIKES TWO!
THAT STILL DOESN'T EXPLAIN WHY YOU'RE DRESSED LIKE A PRIEST!
WE'RE IN A CHURCH, SPIDER-MAN! IS IT NOT APPROPRIATE GARB...
...FOR CONDUCTING LAST RITES OVER YOU?
HOW COMFORTING.
NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE US--
--WE'RE AFRAID THE NOISE OF THE CLAPPER HITTING THE BELL --AFTER IT'S SMASHED YOUR BONES--
--WOULD BE MOST UNPLEASANT FOR US!
FINALLY--THE MOMENT WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR SO LONG!
WITH SPIDER-MAN GONE, WE CAN HAVE BACK THE LIFE HE TOOK FROM US --THE LIFE WE DESERVE!

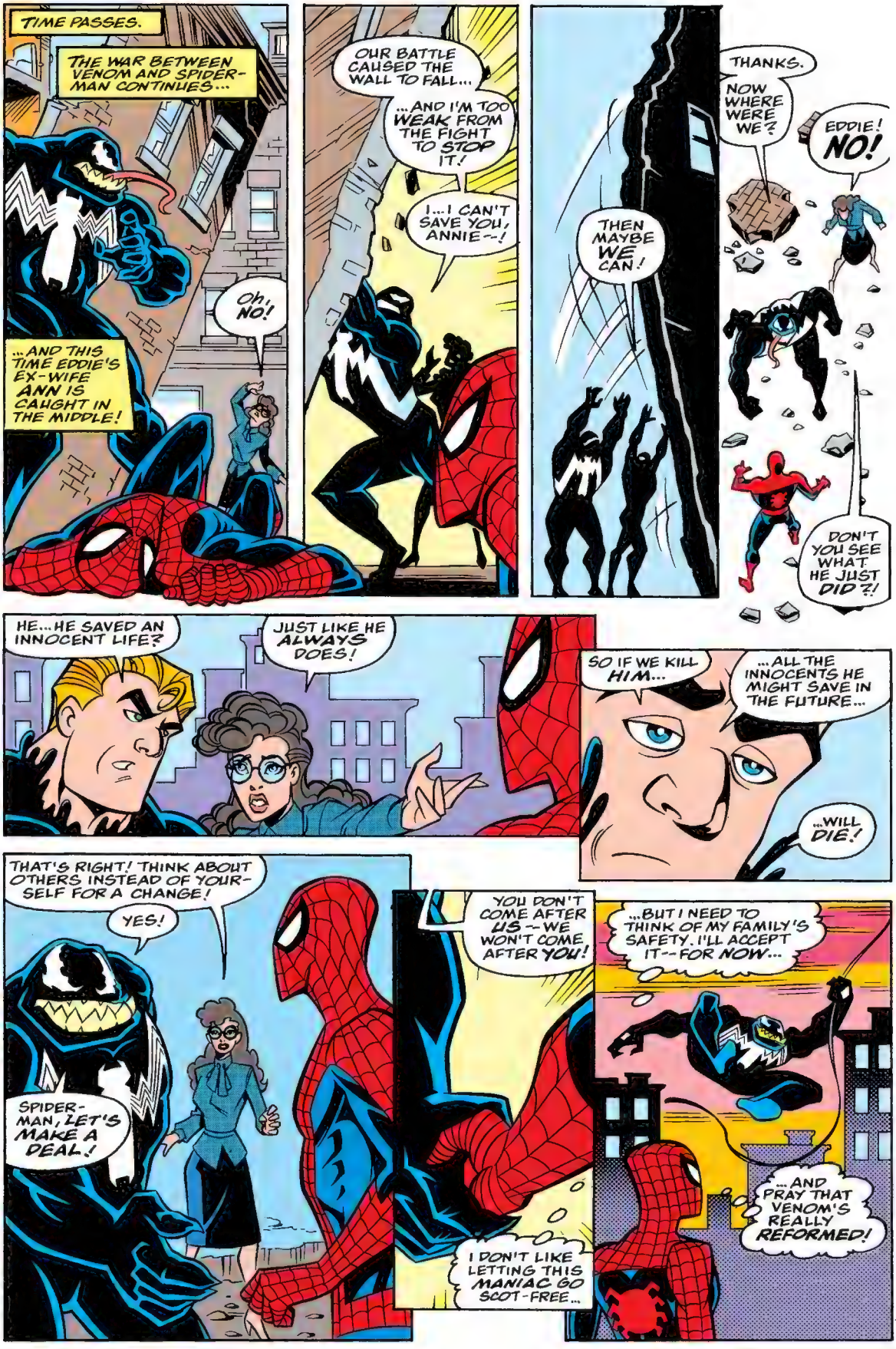

Uh-Oh -- OTHER BELLS ARE STARTING TO TOLL! AND THAT MEANS...
...THIS BELL TOLLS FOR ME!
VENOM'S WEBBING IS AS STRONG AS MINE -- BUT I HAVE NO CHOICE!
GOTTA USE BRUTE STRENGTH --PUSH A HAND THROUGH--
--IT'S MY ONLY CHANCE!
STOPPED IT THIS TIME... BUT GOTTA DO MORE BEFORE THAT CLAPPER CRUSHES THE BONES IN MY PALM INTO POWDER!
STRANGE. WE SHOULD HAVE HEARD SOMETHING BY NOW.
A CRUNCH... A SCREAM... SOMETHING!
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO DIE, SPIDER-MAN!
BUT NO, YOU BROKE THE RULES! NOW...
...YOU'LL HAVE TO BE PUNISHED!
AND HOW DO YOU PLAN TO DO THAT, VENOM--

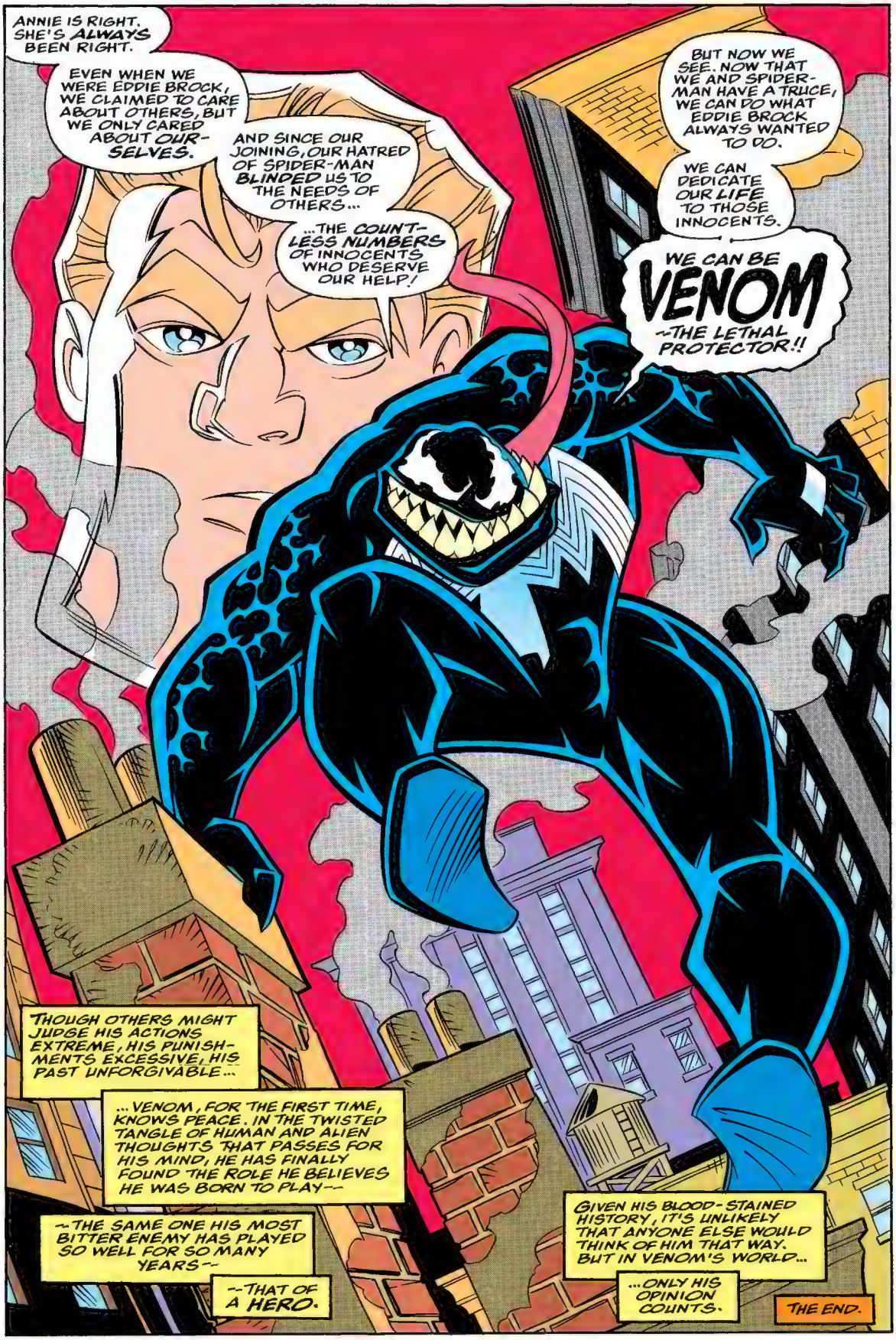
~TAKE AWAY MY TV PRIVILEGES?
GOTTA KEEP HIM CHASING ME.
I FIGURE HE MUST'VE USED UP GALLONS OF WEBBING TO WEB ME TO THAT BELL~
~AND SINCE I KNOW HIS WEBBING IS PART OF THE SYMBIOTE'S OWN SUBSTANCE, THE MORE WEBBING I GET HIM TO USE UP SWINGING AFTER ME...
...THE WEAKER HE SHOULD BECOME!
CHRAK
NO!
JUST LIKE I THOUGHT. THE SYMBIOTE WAS SO DEPLETED AND HASN'T HAD ENOUGH TIME TO REGENERATE ANY OF ITS SUBSTANCE THAT VENOM COULDN'T EVEN SHOOT OUT A WEB-LINE TO SAVE HIMSELF!
AND BEFORE THE SYMBIOTE DOES REGENERATE, I'D BETTER MAKE SOME ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE AUTHORITIES TO LOCK THIS MANIAC AWAY FROM THE PUBLIC FOR A VERY LONG TIME!


THE VAULT--
--A MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON IN COLORADO BUILT FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF CONTAINING DANGEROUS SUPER-CRIMINALS...
...AND FOR THE LAST SEVERAL WEEKS, THERE HAS BEEN NO MORE DANGEROUS INMATE RESIDING WITHIN THESE STEEL WALLS THAN...
...VENOM!
SINCE HIS ARRIVAL, HE HAS SAT SILENTLY, CONSUMED BY A SINGLE THOUGHT...
WE MUST KILL SPIDER-MAN!
OUR STRENGTH IS RENEWED. IT IS TIME.
MOMENTS LATER, AS A SECURITY GUARD PATROLS THE CORRIDOR...
Eh? ONE OF MY FELLOW GUARDS IN THAT CELL!
VENOM MUST'VE ESCAPED!
DISABLING THE SONIC SHIELD DESIGNED TO KEEP VENOM INSIDE HIS CELL, THE GUARD RUSHES IN.
HE IMMEDIATELY REALIZES HE'S MADE A MISTAKE...
GLUMPH!
...HIS LAST.
THE DEATH OF AN INNOCENT IS ALWAYS A TRAGIC AFFAIR.
THAT YOU ONLY STARTED WORKING HERE A FEW DAYS AGO AND HAD NOT YET LEARNED OF OUR ABILITY TO DISGUISE OURSELVES MAKES YOUR DEATH EVEN SADDER.
BUT SACRIFICES MUST BE MADE...

"...IF VENOM IS TO BE FREE ONCE MORE!"
AND FREE HE IS...TO RELENTLESSLY, MERCILESSLY ATTACK SPIDER-MAN!
IN THE MONTHS THAT FOLLOW, VENOM LAUNCHES ONE FEROCIOUS ASSAULT AFTER ANOTHER AGAINST THE WALL-CRAWLER...
...THREATENING MANY OF SPIDER-MAN'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS ALONG THE WAY.
EVEN SPIDEY'S FELLOW CRIME-FIGHTERS LIKE THE BLACK CAT ARE DRAWN IN... UNABLE TO ESCAPE THE SAVAGERY OF VENOM'S SINGLE-MINDED OBSESSION.
AND MORE INNOCENT LIVES ARE LOST--
--BY THOSE UNFORTUNATE ENOUGH TO GET IN VENOM'S WAY.
BUT FOR ALL HIS MURDEROUS EFFORTS, VENOM SUCCEEDS ONLY IN ADDING TO HIS FRUSTRATION AND RAGE...
...FOR SPIDER-MAN STILL LIVES!


AS YET ANOTHER OF THESE BATTLES RAGES, THIS TIME IN NEW YORK'S CENTRAL PARK...
AN INFANT HAS ACCIDENTALLY FALLEN INTO THE LAKE!
DON'T CRY, CHILD! YOU'RE SAFE!
STAY AWAY FROM OUR BABY, YOU MONSTER!
I...I WAS INNOCENT... ONCE.
AND LET HARM COME TO AN INNOCENT? NEVER!
INNOCENCE SHOULD ALWAYS BE PROTECTED... ALWAYS...
SEVERAL DAYS LATER...
YET ANOTHER INNOCENT IN DANGER! BUT WE HAVE THE POWER TO PROTECT HER...
...AND PUNISH THE GUILTY!
DON'T TOUCH ME PLEASE!
GO AWAY!!
URMPH!
BUT--BUT YOU ARE AN INNOCENT. YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM ME.
WE...WE DON'T UNDERSTAND!
WE FEEL GOOD WHEN WE SAVE INNOCENTS. PERHAPS IT IS THE FIRST TIME WE FEEL GOOD ABOUT OURSELVES SINCE BEFORE OUR JOINING!
YET PEOPLE FEAR US. THEY BELIEVE THAT SINCE WE HAVE ATTACKED SPIDER-MAN, WE MEAN TO DO THEM HARM AS WELL. BUT WE CHERISH INNOCENT LIFE!
WHY CAN'T THEY UNDERSTAND THAT?
OF COURSE, SOME INNOCENTS HAVE GOTTEN HURT IN OUR QUEST TO MAKE SPIDER-MAN PAY FOR WHAT HE'S DONE TO US...
...BUT CAN'T THEY SEE THAT A FEW SUCH CASUALTIES ARE THE UNAVOIDABLE PRICE OF JUSTICE?


TIME PASSES.
THE WAR BETWEEN VENOM AND SPIDER-MAN CONTINUES...
...AND THIS TIME EDDIE'S EX-WIFE ANN IS CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE!
Oh, NO!
OUR BATTLE CAUSED THE WALL TO FALL...
...AND I'M TOO WEAK FROM THE FIGHT TO STOP IT!
I...I CAN'T SAVE YOU, ANNIE--!
THEN MAYBE WE CAN!
THANKS.
NOW WHERE WERE WE?
EDDIE! NO!
DON'T YOU SEE WHAT HE JUST DID?!
HE...HE SAVED AN INNOCENT LIFE?
JUST LIKE HE ALWAYS DOES!
SO IF WE KILL HIM...
...ALL THE INNOCENTS HE MIGHT SAVE IN THE FUTURE...
...WILL DIE!
THAT'S RIGHT! THINK ABOUT OTHERS INSTEAD OF YOURSELF FOR A CHANGE!
YES!
SPIDER-MAN, LET'S MAKE A DEAL!
YOU DON'T COME AFTER US--WE WON'T COME AFTER YOU!
I DON'T LIKE LETTING THIS MANIAC GO SCOT-FREE...
...BUT I NEED TO THINK OF MY FAMILY'S SAFETY. I'LL ACCEPT IT--FOR NOW...
...AND PRAY THAT VENOM'S REALLY REFORMED!


ANNIE IS RIGHT. SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN RIGHT.
EVEN WHEN WE WERE EDDIE BROCK, WE CLAIMED TO CARE ABOUT OTHERS, BUT WE ONLY CARED ABOUT OUR-SELVES.
AND SINCE OUR JOINING, OUR HATRED OF SPIDER-MAN BLINDED US TO THE NEEDS OF OTHERS...
...THE COUNT-LESS NUMBERS OF INNOCENTS WHO DESERVE OUR HELP!
BUT NOW WE SEE. NOW THAT WE AND SPIDER-MAN HAVE A TRUCE, WE CAN DO WHAT EDDIE BROCK ALWAYS WANTED TO DO.
WE CAN DEDICATE OUR LIFE TO THOSE INNOCENTS.
WE CAN BE VENOM --THE LETHAL PROTECTOR!!
THOUGH OTHERS MIGHT JUDGE HIS ACTIONS EXTREME, HIS PUNISH-MENTS EXCESSIVE, HIS PAST UNFORGIVABLE...
...VENOM, FOR THE FIRST TIME, KNOWS PEACE. IN THE TWISTED TANGLE OF HUMAN AND ALIEN THOUGHTS THAT PASSES FOR HIS MIND, HE HAS FINALLY FOUND THE ROLE HE BELIEVES HE WAS BORN TO PLAY--
--THE SAME ONE HIS MOST BITTER ENEMY HAS PLAYED SO WELL FOR SO MANY YEARS--
--THAT OF A HERO.
GIVEN HIS BLOOD-STAINED HISTORY, IT'S UNLIKELY THAT ANYONE ELSE WOULD THINK OF HIM THAT WAY. BUT IN VENOM'S WORLD...
...ONLY HIS OPINION COUNTS.
THE END.

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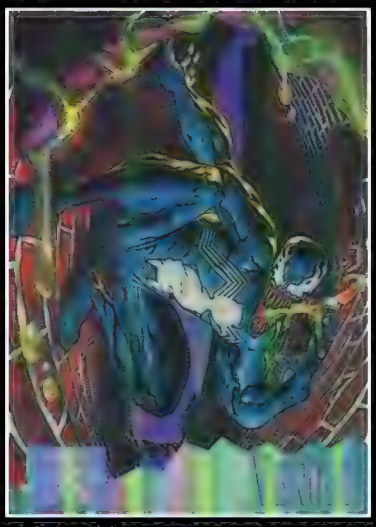

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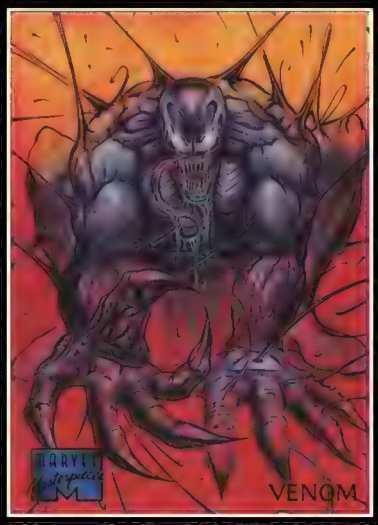

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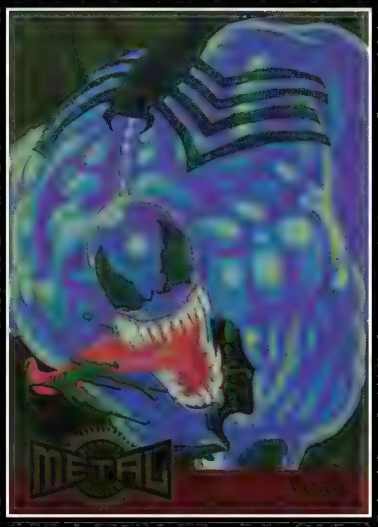
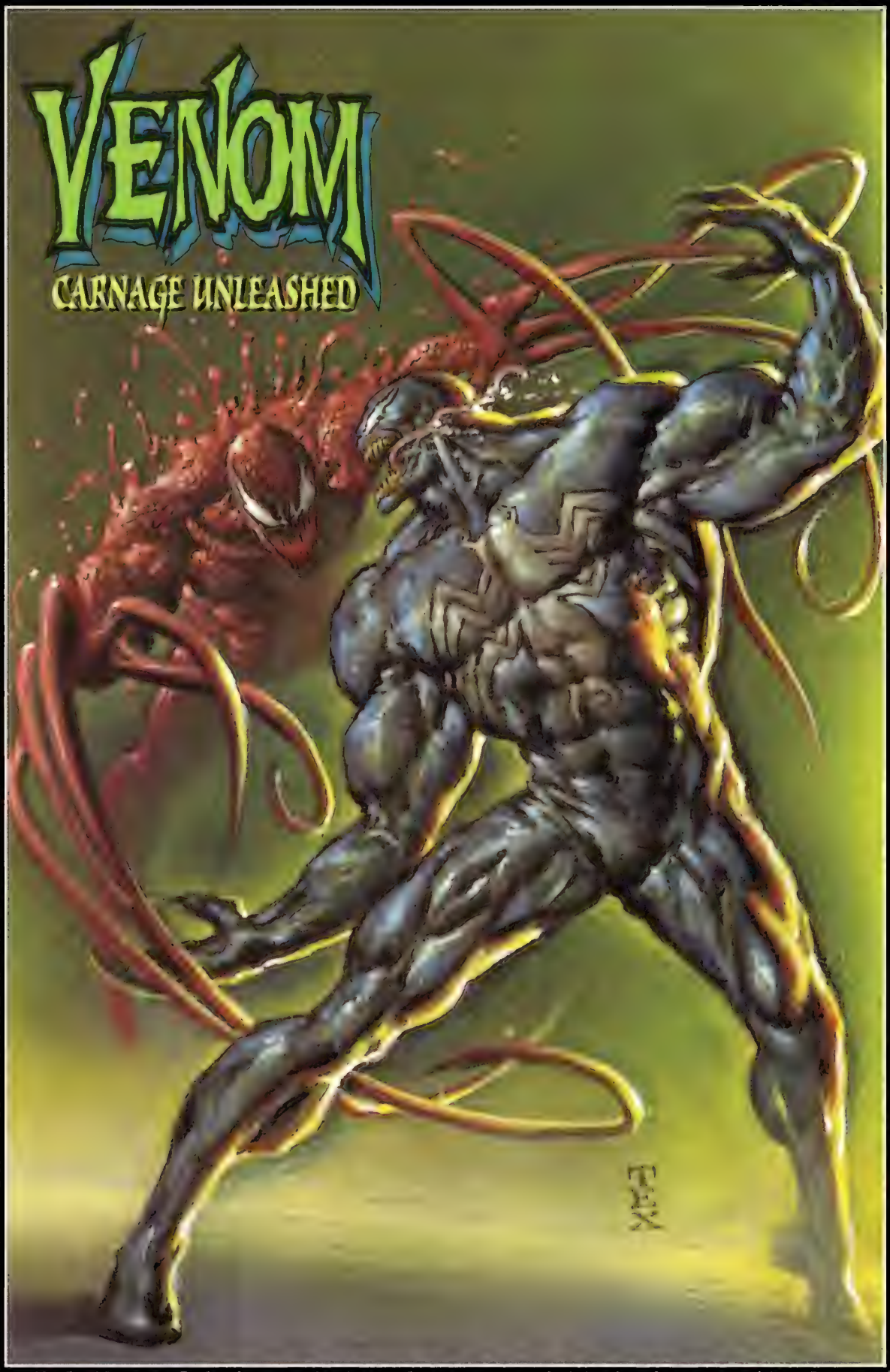


MARVEL METAL '95 TRADING CARDS BY
TOM KYFFIN & DIMITRI BASSOUKAS AND DARICK ROBERTSON & REGIE MILBURN

While on Madripoor's wharf, **Venom** has a Zen moment:
If the fish aren't biting, then it is time to bite the fish!
Confucius he's not.

MARVEL SWIMSUIT SPECIAL #4 PINUP BY ANGEL MEDINA & TOM SMITH • TEXT BY PAULA FOYE & ROB TOKAR



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COVER ART BY ANDREW WILDMAN & PAUL MOUNTS

Page one of a Two Page Spread
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Page Two of a Two Page Spread
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"TOGETHER WE RECEIVE VENOM..."
MAYBE YOU'LL HEAR OF US. WE USED TO GET A LOT OF UNEGGERIED BAD PRESS.
...OR LIKE CARNAGE.
A VIDEO GAME?!?
WE DERRIERE'S BIGGY SMALLS COLLIN VICK OF INTUPERATION AND HALBERTON SMITH, DESK EDITOR CAN SUCK IT AH!
A TRADEMARK?!?
CASADY WE'LL EVER YOUR HEART OUT BEFORE WE SEE YOU CASH IN ON YOUR INFAMY!
CARNAGE UNLEASHED
SCHRRRIPP
PART ONE:
THE BESUME WAY HERE...
SCRIPT LARRY HAMA
PENCIL BREAKDOWNS ANDREW WILDMAN
INK FINISHES ART NICHOLS
COLORING TOM RUBINSTEIN
LETTERING KEN LOPEZ
EDITOR ERIC FEIN
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The sinister symbiote finds himself caught in the web of Spider-Man's clone, the Scarlet Spider! But when the battle leads to Eddie and his other being separated, can they find a way to escape captivity and reunite — or will the Life Foundation symbiotes stand in their way? Venom will need to be back at full strength when a hit video game provides Cletus Kasady with the opportunity to unleash Carnage once more! And when killer vigilante Sin-Eater strikes, Eddie's ex-wife is caught in the crossfire. To survive, must she become the bride of Venom?

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